

THE NONCONFORMIST.

"The dissidence of dissent and the protestantism of the protestant religion."

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ECCLESIASTICAL AFFAIRS.

SENSE OF RESPONSIBILITY.

THE world's rulers take but little note of God's image in the soul of man. Human nature they seem to regard as a kind of animated machinery, made to their hands, of which they constitute the moving power, and which, but for their presiding wisdom, would have neither design, nor ability, nor use. Earth's destiny waits their bidding. The reins of providence are gathered up into their hands. Nothing can go forward without them. No authority but their's can compass obedience. If, indeed, their assumptions might be believed, all the laws of moral being derive their efficacy from the stamp of their *fiat*. They, yes, they! poor driveling mortals like ourselves, form themselves into a joint-stock company to work out a problem for the world, which they cannot solve for themselves—the highest happiness. Hear this, all nations, and let a shout of universal joy utter your gratitude! Down with the tyrant, care, for ever! Let all individual anxieties cease henceforth! Resign yourselves, in cordial trust, to one or other of these joint-stock associations! Of what advantage to you are reason, faith, conscience, or those other and lower attributes, desire of independence, love of property, impatience of arbitrary rule, under the guidance of which you have, each in his own capacity and sphere, sought the attainment of the supreme end of existence? 'Tis all a mistake! Nature is mistaken! He who made nature what it is, is mistaken! Governments must undertake happiness for man, judge for him, choose for him, be responsible for him, believe for him, act for him. He has only to become the passive raw material out of which his rulers may spin their purposes, and weave their plans, and the result will be "the greatest happiness of the greatest number." What a very benevolent as well as ingenious joint-stock company! Meanwhile, it may not be amiss to ask, who are the directors of this magnificently looking concern? Not men, surely; not erring, frail, self-seeking men? Even so, but *certainly*, they are. Well then, with a vote of thanks for their unspeakably kind intentions, we, for our parts, answer—"Gentlemen, you really are too good; we will not trouble you to such an extent. Only oblige us by securing to us protection of person, liberty, and property; and as to the happiness, we will not hold you further responsible. Thank you, all the same, but *we* will look after that, each one for himself."

A truce to banter! Although the maxim now so universally current, and stamped with such high authority—"The end of human governments is the greatest happiness of the greatest number"—is so supremely ridiculous as to provoke the indulgence of it. We remark, with more seriousness, that Providence has not left mankind to so wretched a shift as this. Those mutually dependent interests, all closely interwoven into one tissue, so that the suffering of one is, by a certainty of law which no artificial arrangements can contravene, the suffering of all—those mysterious links of sympathy which, like a ramified system of nerves, cover as network the whole body of society, and connect in one band of brotherhood all the millions of the human family—that ever-present, ever-pressing sense of responsibility which devolves upon each, according to the measure of his means, the charge of all, and disposes each, so far as it is allowed to act, to find good in the communication of good—these, as the guarantees of social happiness, indicate a higher reach of wisdom, a deeper profundity of plan, distincter traces of divinity, than that bald, common-place, contemptible scheme of converting the whole world into a school-room, and ranging the whole human race into two classes—children and monitors. "Am I my brother's keeper?" was an impious question, in the infancy of time—a question which deliberately set its heel upon God's mark in the heart of man, and tried hard, but in vain, to obliterate it. Each one of us is conscious to this very day of his own individual accountability for the welfare of the whole. Each one of us feels that his talents, station, wealth, influence, religion, are vested in him in trust for others. Life is but a stewardship. And whatever tends directly or by implication to relieve us of the onerous but honourable charge imposed upon us—whatever leads us to cherish the thought, or to utter it with seeming reason, "Am I my brother's keeper?"—is, in so far as it operates, mere grit in the composition of society; it has no business there; it occupies the room of better elements; it deteriorates and renders more fragile, more liable to crack, and break off, and fall into separate pieces, what, under the most favourable circumstances, holds together with but too, too little tenacity.

We know not what good and sufficient reason can be shown for releasing men from responsibility in regard to the promotion of the *highest* interests of their fellows. We know not why that sense and feeling which ought to be diffused over the entire body of society, and to be susceptible of being acted upon at every point of its surface, should be drawn into one central spot, leaving all other parts of the social frame devoid of sensibility. We cannot discover the authority which sanctions men in putting off, like a useless or

ill-fashioned garment, duties with which the Supreme himself has invested them, simply because they can find a government ready to put them on. Surely civil institutions were not originally intended to answer the place of a clothes-stand, upon which subjects might hang their religious responsibilities. The efficiency of spiritual means is little likely to be promoted by this system of centralisation; by bidding every man throw his individual conscience into one public cauldron, that by the potency of some invisible fire they may be all melted down into a state-conscience, which state-conscience is, in respect of making provision for the spiritual wants of man, to do duty for every member of the community, and become a universal proxy. Men in a corporate capacity are never very acutely alive in regard to their moral sense. They are well known to be capable both of doing and of leaving undone what, as individuals, they would in the one case condemn, in the other perform. Nothing but an artificial public conscience could have tolerated until now hosts of pleasure-hunting, inefficient clergy—or have satisfied itself with the mechanical routine of spiritual instruction which has left the mass of the labouring men a prey to brutal ignorance, or driven them into avowed alliance with infidelity—or have allowed a population to multiply itself in hundreds of parishes, beyond the possibility of church accommodation; and have remained, until lately, utterly indifferent as to whether our industrious masses grew up in heathenism, or were brought within range of Christian truth. A state-conscience only, we should say, could have viewed with stolid unconcern the great majority of its appointed religious instructors joined arm in arm, deliberately and confessedly walking back, under guidance of episcopal direction, to Roman mummeries, absurdities, and blasphemies; each taking with him his share of protestant temporalities, and covering his retrograde movement with the shout of "No popery." These are some of the precious results of merging individual into national responsibility, and making that the bounden duty of the state which God has made the duty of every Christian.

The voluntary principle, by throwing the support of religious institutions upon the members of society, instead of upon government, operates in perfect union with this individual sense of responsibility. So far from attempting to supersede, it directly appeals to it—fosters its susceptibility, and increases its action. Under it, men can no longer, in reference to the means of public worship and religious instruction, contemplate themselves in the humiliating light of beings who have no further business in the matter of the promulgation of Christian truth than to do as the state bids them, and to be happy in being looked after by authorised shepherds. They are at once promoted to a post of trust. To provide spiritual sustenance for themselves, their dependents, and, as far as their ability stretches, for their own neighbourhood, their own country, the wide world, is the charge devolved upon them, not by meddling officious fellow-mortals, but by the higher authority of providential arrangement and divine command. In the recognition of an obligation thus imposed, there is pleasure—in the efficient discharge of it, high satisfaction. It constitutes under the voluntary principle, a moral law, the imprint of which upon their minds few men would be able to obliterate, and negligence in complying with which would create uneasiness and self-dissatisfaction in most.

We have only to imagine the sudden decease of the compulsory system, to get at a notion of what may, in this respect, be trusted to a sense of individual responsibility. Let us suppose that every man in the empire were duly informed that, subsequently to a certain appointed date, the government would be no further answerable for the provision of spiritual means for the people; and that the ample resources set apart by it until now for the support of public worship, would be withdrawn, and applied thenceforth to secular purposes. What! could we rest content with dropping Christianity altogether? If so, it is certain the state-church has not made us very zealous believers in its doctrines. If not, would not destitution around us, in our own immediate neighbourhood, and, in case that had been adequately met, in any part of our own country, appeal to us, reproach us, render us restless, compel us to talk about it, to pity it, and ultimately to contrive some plan for its relief? Whose business would it be to see that none were without wholesome Christian superintendence? Would it not be mainly that of the really religious people of every sect? What would they do, in case they found themselves incompetent to manage so mighty a work unaided? Why, they would remind others of duties neglected, of ability thrown away, of high pleasures disregarded, of serious responsibilities incurred. And whilst these men preached from without, conscience would second them from within. Men everywhere, in every nook of the empire, would feel themselves bound to exertion—and they would exert themselves. They who tell us that this whole country would degenerate into downright heathenism the moment that a state-church were abandoned, are the well-paid priests of that church, and the patrons of those priests. They—that is the inefficient, the immoral, and the irreligious

amongst them, would probably find the zeal of the voluntary principle overlook their claims upon public benevolence—but the nation would be abundantly better supplied with earnest and faithful religious teachers; for, after all, a personal sense of responsibility is far more potent in every good word and work, than the tenderest of state consciences, or the most imperious of state enactments.

CHURCH RATE DEFEAT.—A meeting of the rate-payers of Leeds was held on the 1st of December, for the purpose of laying a church rate. The Rev. G. Digby was in the chair; and the meeting was numerously attended. An animated discussion ensued between the rate-payers, and the rev. chairman and churchwardens, respecting the bungling manner in which the past year's accounts were presented, being on slips of paper; and as one of the churchwardens, Mr G. Harper, had previously stated that he had £9 in hand, a question was asked respecting it, when the rev. chairman said that there were unpaid bills which would amount to that sum; these bills were not produced. Mr J. Briggs inquired the reason why only three individuals were summoned for refusing to pay the impost last year, when he was informed by the Chairman that it would have been too expensive to summon all, and he had been advised by the Archdeacon. A rate of 2d. in the pound was proposed by Mr T. H. Walker, and seconded by Mr J. Slater. An amendment was moved by Mr S. Wilkinson, that a rate of 1d. be granted, which was not seconded. Mr T. Linforth, jun., then proposed, and Mr H. Stubbs seconded, a motion, that the meeting be adjourned till that day twelve months, which was carried by an overwhelming majority. The Rev. G. Digby then declared that he would go to the utmost extent of the law by demanding a poll; which commenced instantly, and finally closed on Saturday last, at four o'clock, p.m., when after a severe contest, it was declared that the anti-rate party had a majority of four votes, thereby proving themselves victorious. Since that time the church clock and bell have been dumb, but how long they will cease to perform their accustomed routine of duty remains to be seen.—*Leeds Mercury*.

CHURCH RATES.—The following notice has been forwarded from the Home office to the overseers and churchwardens of every parish in England and Wales:—

"GENTLEMEN—The Queen having been pleased to comply with the prayer of an humble address presented to her Majesty in pursuance of a resolution of the House of Commons, for 'a return of every church rate, or rate for the purpose of church rate, within the last two years, in every parish, district parish, and extra-parochial place, distinguishing the year in which it was made; the gross amount of the rate, and the rate per pound on the property assessed; the amount collected, and the amount spent in repairing the fabric of the church; the amount derived from all funds other than church rates, applied in aid thereof; in what cases vestries called to consider a church rate have refused, or by any form of proceeding declined to grant it; also with the prayer of an humble address presented to her Majesty, in pursuance of a resolution of the House of Commons, for 'a return of the value at which the property has been assessed to the church rate, in each parish, district parish, and extra-parochial place, within the last two years.'"

"I am directed by Secretary Sir James Graham to desire that you will prepare the said returns, so far as relates to the parish, or township, district parish, or extra-parochial place for which you are the churchwardens, and transmit the same to me as soon as possible, with a view to their being laid before the House of Commons."

"A form for the returns has been prepared, and in enclosing to you a copy thereof, I have to request that the same may be carefully filled up and returned to me unsealed; and it is particularly requested that the insertion of the name of your parish, and of the county and diocese in which it is situated, may not be omitted in the form."

(Signed)

H. MANNERS SUTTON."

The following is the nature of the return required:—

- 1st. Date at which every church rate, or rate for the purpose of the church rate, has been made within the last two years.
- 2nd. Gross amount of rate.
- 3rd. Value at which the property has been assessed to the church rate.
- 4th. Rate per pound of the church rate on the property assessed.
- 5th. Amount of church rate collected.
- 6th. Amount derived from all funds, other than church rates, applied in aid thereof.
- 7th. Amount spent in repairing the fabric of the church.
- 8th. Cases in which vestries have refused, or by any form of proceeding declined, to grant a church rate.

JUDICIAL COMMITTEE OF THE PRIVY COUNCIL.—Judgment was given on Friday, on an appeal from the Archdeacon of Canterbury; the Rev. H. Erskine Head v. Ralph Saunders promoting the office of the judge. The appellant has been cited in the Archdeacon court for writing letters in the *Western Times*, headed "A View of the Duplicity of the present System of Episcopal Ministration, in a Letter addressed to the Parishioners of Feniton, Devon, occasioned by the Bishop of Exeter's Circular on Confirmation; by Henry Erskine Head, Rector of Feniton, Devon." The appellant had interposed a protest in the court below. Lord Campbell, on the part of the Judicial Committee, affirmed the decree of the court below.

RETURN TO POPERY.—The parish church of Chawleigh, as tradition says, was, by its founders, the Roman Catholics, dedicated to St Andrew, who, of course, is the tutelary saint of the parish. Wednesday, Nov. 30th, a day marked in the calendar as St Andrew's day (notice having been given the Sunday previous, exhorting the inhabitants to return to that duty they had so long neglected), the bell tolled, the rev. divine with his popish canonicals walked to the church; but fie! enlightened inhabitants of Chawleigh, only two were found to do homage to their patron saint. Report says it was by order of the Bishop, and the inhabitants expect soon to see lighted tapers on the altar.—*Western Times*.

A BLOW FOR POPERY.—It has been thought, or at least maintained, that the only way of affording complete satisfaction and repose to the scrupulous, and of repressing schism, is to uphold, under the title of "church principles," the doctrine that no one is a member of Christ's church, and an heir of the covenant gospel promises, who is not under a ministry ordained by bishops descended in an unbroken chain from the apostles. Now what is the degree of satisfactory assurance that is thus afforded to the scrupulous consciences of any members of an episcopal church? If a man consider it as highly probable that the particular minister at whose hands he receives the sacred ordinances is really apostolically descended, this is the very utmost point to which he can, with any semblance of reason, attain; and he is left to inquire, the more cause for hesitation he will find, if he is a minister in all Christendom who is able to reach to certainty, his own spiritual pedigree. For such it is that is implied, whether the principle I have been speaking of, be the principle of hands, with a due observance of apostolic consecration, or of hands, with a due observance of apostolic consecration, after having been in the church, and ordained deacon and priest;

this sacramental virtue, if a single link of the chain be faulty, must, on the above principles, be utterly nullified ever after, in respect of all the links that hang on that one. For if a bishop has not been duly consecrated, or had not been, previously, rightly ordained, his ordinations are null; and so are the ministrations of those ordained by him, and their ordination of others (supposing any of the persons ordained by him to attain to the episcopal office), and so on, without end. The poisonous taint of informality, if it once creep in undetected, will spread the infection of nullity to an indefinite and irremediable extent. And who can undertake to pronounce that during that long period, usually designated as the dark ages, no such taint ever was introduced? Irregularities could not have been wholly excluded without a perpetual miracle; and that no such miraculous interference existed, we have even historical proof. Amidst the numerous corruptions of doctrine and of practice, and gross superstitions, that crept in during those ages, we find recorded descriptions not only of the profound ignorance, and profligacy of life, of many of the clergy, but also of the grossest irregularities in respect of discipline and form. We read of bishops consecrated when mere children—of men officiating who barely knew their letters—of prelates expelled, and others put into places, by violence—of illiterate and profligate laymen, and habitual drunkards, admitted to holy orders; and, in short, of the prevalence of every kind of disorder, and reckless disregard of the decency which the apostle enjoins. It is inconceivable that any one even moderately acquainted with history, can feel a certainty, or any approach to certainty, that, amidst all this confusion and corruption, every requisite form, was in every instance strictly adhered to, by men, many of them openly profane and secular, unrestrained by public opinion, through the gross ignorance of the population among which they lived; and that no one not duly consecrated or ordained was admitted to sacred offices. * * * Now, let any one proceed on the hypothesis that there are, suppose, but a hundred links connecting any particular minister with the apostles; and let him even suppose that not above half of this number pass through such periods as admit of any possible irregularity; and then, placing at the lowest estimate the probability of defectiveness in respect of each of the remaining fifty, taken separately, let him consider what amount of probability will result from the multiplying of the whole together. The ultimate consequence must be, that any one who sincerely believes his claim to the benefits of the gospel covenant depends on his own minister's claim to the supposed sacramental virtue of true ordination, and this again on perfect apostolical succession, as above described, must be involved, in proportion as he reads, and inquires, and reflects, and reasons on the subject, in the most distressing doubt and perplexity. It is no wonder, therefore, that the advocates of this theory studiously disparage reasoning, deprecate all exercise of the mind in reflection, decry appeals to evidence, and lament that even the power of reading should be imparted to the people. It is not without cause that they dread and lament "an age of too much light," and wish to involve religion in "a solemn and awful gloom." It is not without cause that, having removed the Christian's confidence from a rock to base it on sand, they forbid all prying curiosity to examine their foundation."

—*Archbishop Whateley's Kingdom of Christ*.

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND QUESTION.—We have just heard, and on good authority, that the government are firmly resolved not to yield to the demands of the majority of the church, as expounded at the last General Assembly and recent Convocation.—*Caledonian Mercury*.

THE CONVOCATION.—The Convocation have published the memorial with the resolutions which they drew up at their late meeting, and have submitted them to Sir Robert Peel and the other members of her Majesty's government. This document, of course, contains nothing new. It is but a reiteration of what the non-intrusionists deem their grievances and oppressions, in consequence of the alleged encroachments of the civil courts; and of their determination to secede from the church should the legislature decline to interfere, or to give them the relief which they demand. The number of parish ministers, who concurred in the second series of resolutions adopted at the Convocation, amounts to 227, exclusive of eleven out of the twenty-one who gave a partial adhesion. The list includes 124 who are not parish ministers, consisting of *quoad sacra*, parliamentary, missionaries, adopted dissenters, &c.; so that the adherents to these resolutions do not amount to nearly one-fourth of the established clergy. A correspondent of the *Scotsman* says that it is the intention of the non-intrusionists "to put off time, by means of a plausible excuse, till the General Assembly meets, when (having drawn the Whitsunday stipend), as they will constitute the majority, they will, in the name of the Assembly, declare the connexion of the entire church with the state dissolved, and thus involve their opponents with themselves, depriving those who have endured so much, by having obeyed the law, of their state endowments."

The *Edinburgh Observer* says, that Messrs Cunningham and Brown (perhaps others besides) intimated to their several congregations, on Sunday week, that they were about to leave the church, appealing to their flocks whether or not they would follow; and that on Monday a private aggregate meeting was held, for taking into consideration the raising of funds to enable them to do the same.

CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

LETTER X.

THE PROPER SPHERE OF GOVERNMENT.

SIR—Had our government always taken care duly to perform its original and all-important functions—had the administration of justice ever stood pre-eminent in the eyes of our statesmen—had it at all times been considered as the one thing needful—and had no other questions ever been entertained at its expense, then might these interferences, in matters with which legislators have no concern, have been more excusable. But it is not so. To the long list of their sins of commission we have to add the sin of omission; and most grievously has the nation suffered from their neglect, as well as from their officiousness.

Place before an unbiased arbitrator the conditions of our relation to the government. Tell him that the legislature is a body deputed by the nation to keep order, to protect person and property, and that these are its most important, if not its only, duties. Tell him that every man practically gives in his allegiance to this government—that he annually pays towards its support a large portion of his earnings—that he sacrifices to it his personal independence—and that he does all this in the expectation of receiving from



NONCONFORMIST

it the advantages of that protection which it is presumed to give in return for these deprivations. Explain all this, and then ask him to state in what manner he should expect this government to fulfil its part of the contract. He would say that, when the people had paid their taxes, and submitted themselves to the legislature, they had done all that could be required of them—that it remained with that legislature to carry home to every man the benefits of civil order—that the revenue was subscribed by the people for the express purpose of defraying the expenses of this protective establishment—and that when any man had thus prepaid the government, it would be a most unjust proceeding for that government to put him to additional expense whenever it was called upon to perform its duty towards him. From these considerations he would infer that it was the duty of the state to establish courts of justice, which should be easy of access, speedy in their decisions, and in which every man should be able to obtain the protection of the law, free of cost. And now let us inquire how far the conduct of our legislature coincides with this obviously just conclusion. Our governors tax the people to a most exorbitant extent; squander the money thus wrested from the toiling artisan in the support of institutions for the benefit of the rich—institutions which they know to be inimical to the public welfare; and when the misused subject demands of the government that it protect him in the exercise of his rights and privileges—when he asks it to fulfil the duties for which it was instituted—when he requests it to do for him that for which he has already paid it so extravagantly—what does it do? Does it willingly and efficiently respond to his demand? Does it, without fee or reward, fully and fairly administer the laws? Does it send forth its officers, commanding them diligently to secure to every one that protection which he has sacrificed so much to obtain? Does it take up the cause of the poor man, and defend him against the aggressions of his rich neighbour? No! it does none of these things. It turns over the complainant to the tender mercies of solicitors, attorneys, barristers, and a whole legion of law officers. It drains his purse with charges for writs, briefs, affidavits, subpoenas, fees of all kinds, and expenses innumerable. It involves him in all the mazy intricacies of common courts, chancery courts, suits, counter-suits, and appeals; and thousands of times has it overwhelmed with irretrievable ruin, the man whose person and property it was bound to defend. And this is our "glorious constitution!"

We pity the poor subjects of oriental despotism. We view their absolute form of government with contempt. We turn from it to contemplate what we call our "free institutions" with pleasure, and congratulate ourselves upon the superiority of our condition. Yet might the subject of one of these autocrats hold up to scorn the results of our seemingly "free institutions." Many and many a case could he point out in this "land of liberty," of misery and famine, brought on by the rich man's tyranny—of wrongs endured, because money was wanting wherewith to purchase protection—of rights unclaimed, because contention with the powerful usurper was useless—aye, hundreds upon hundreds might he find in times present, and in times bygone, whose want and wretchedness, whose hollow cheeks and tattered clothing, could bear testimony of the delusiveness of English justice. And then, by way of contrast, he could tell of the active and even-handed legislation of many an absolute monarch. Numerous instances might he point out, of justice, freely and fairly administered by Eastern sultans—instances where the poor and weak could pour their tales of oppression into the ear of the monarch himself, and obtain redress—where wealth and interest were not required to secure protection; neither were any shield to the oppressor. How long will our countrymen continue to praise and venerate a mere shadow—to pride and congratulate themselves upon the possession of what is daily demonstrated to be a hollow mockery? What a disgrace it is to Englishmen, thus to allow themselves to be cheated by an empty name! Not only has our government done those things which it ought not to have done, but it has left undone those things which it ought to have done; and truly may it be said that there is no health in it.

The solution of the problem, "What is the duty of the state?" has an important bearing upon the question of complete suffrage. With that large class of men, whose conclusions are determined by the dictates of expediency rather than by the demands of justice, one of the objections to an investment of power in the hands of the people is this—"Society is a complicated machine; the interests of its members are many and various, and so strangely connected and intertwined with each other, that it requires great sagacity, and clearness of intellect, fully to comprehend and appreciate their multiplied relations. Legislation has, for one of its objects, the proper regulation and protection of all these conflicting interests; and so great is the difficulty of keeping everything in equilibrium, that even our most profound statesmen have been baffled in the attempt. Would it, then, be prudent to give to the uneducated classes the power of directing the legislature in matters so difficult to understand, yet so important to the public welfare?"

Now, if it can be shown that the administration of justice is the only duty of the state—if it should turn out that these complex and manifold interests require no regulation at all, but that they are naturally so arranged as to regulate themselves—if it should be discovered that the great difficulties encountered in the management of social concerns, arise from the disturbance of natural laws, and that governments have been endeavouring to maintain, in a condition of unstable equilibrium, things which, if let alone, would naturally assume a condition of stable equilibrium; then must the objection be to a great extent invalidated. That the affairs of the nation are in a state of dreadful embarrassment, and that it may take some skill to bring them back to their normal condition, is not denied; but, whilst it can be shown that this disastrous state of things has resulted—not from want of legislation, but from over legislation—not from any intellectual deficiency on the part of our law makers, but from their everlasting selfish interference—the fact can afford no argument against complete suffrage. Take an illustration. Imagine some poor unlucky wight to be persuaded by his doctor that he could never enjoy perfect health without medical superintendence—that his digestion would not go on properly without stimulants—that he must take pectoral pills to keep his lungs in order—that he must swallow, now and then, a sudorific, to sustain the functions of his skin, and so on; and suppose that, in the abundance of his faith, our patient puts himself under the direction of this learned physician, and in obedience to his orders gulps down, day by day, one dose of medicine after another—now an aperient to rectify his bowels, and then a tonic to strengthen his stomach—one time takes a vapour bath to increase his perspiration, and again a diuretic to diminish it—this week eats abundance of nourishing food to increase his strength, and the next parts with a few ounces of blood to guard against plethora—and so on, through a long course of medical treatment, taking in their turns, emetics, anodynes, cathartics, opiates, febrifuges and alteratives, together with a due proportion of topical applications, such as plasters, blisters, liniments, emollients, and so forth. And when, after all this doctoring, the poor fellow has been brought to such a pass, as to be for ever going wrong in some way or other, and is continually requiring the attendance of his physician, to remove this pain and to rectify the other disorder—when he has come to such a state that he no sooner gets rid of one malady than he is seized with another, imagine this professor of the healing art to gather round the bed-side of the invalid a cluster of country clowns, and begin to harangue them upon the various and complicated functions of the human body, describing to them its numerous organs, and their individual duties, the manifold disorders to which they are liable, and the diffi-

culty of curing them; and then, to add point to his lecture, fancy him pointing to his patient, and saying, "See what a difficult thing it is to keep a man in health!" Why, even John Bull, with all his gullibility, would smile at this. And yet when the same thing is said of society, when the invalid is a nation instead of a man, he believes it. Our state physicians have, from time immemorial, persuaded the people that social affairs would never go right without their interference; that the ever-clashing interests of different grades of men required regulation; that a vigilant supervision was necessary to secure the healthy fulfilment of all the national functions; and, in accordance with all these notions, they have been for ever doctoring the affairs of the country, now prescribing a lower diet under the name of "restrictive duties," and then allowing a surfeit of food to make up for past privations—at one time administering a stimulus to exercise, styled "encouragement to home manufactures," and at another raising an outcry for some remedy against over-production—here providing a tonic for the nation's morals, called a "national church," and there creating a war, to prevent those morals acquiring undue strength—on one part of the social body, applying a soothing ointment, in the shape of a "poor law," and on another, inflicting an extensive bleeding, under the form of an "income tax." And when, after all these transcendently skilful operations, the nation has been brought almost to the brink of dissolution—when its debility is showing itself in the most alarming forms—when its constitution is so weakened that it is hardly possible to cure one of its maladies without producing a worse—when, in short, it is in the state in which we now see it, we hear these sage and self-complacent legislators exclaim, "See what a difficult thing it is to govern a country!"

If, therefore, it be admitted that our national misfortunes have not arisen from the difficulties inherent in the nature of government, but from the determination to legislate when no legislation was required, the above-mentioned objection to complete suffrage must fall to the ground.

The inferences are these:—

1. That by allowing the government to spend its time and money in the management of things over which it ought to have no control, we not only entail upon ourselves the misfortunes arising from its evil legislation, but also those resulting from the neglect of its real duties.

2. That if it be conceded that the administration of justice is the only duty of the state, we are at once relieved from one of the greatest objections to the enfranchisement of the working classes.

HERBERT SPENCER.

THE COMPLETE SUFFRAGE MOVEMENT.

The weekly meeting of the committee was held at the office of the Union, Waterloo street, on Monday, and was chiefly occupied in making preparation for the ensuing conference.

A sub-committee was appointed to make arrangements for a suitable place in which to hold the conference, and for obtaining a report of its proceedings.

The Secretary was desired to correspond with parties at Leicester and Brighton, with reference to their meetings for the appointment of delegates.

The official accounts of the election of delegates for several places were laid upon the table.

A great number of letters were read—

From Frome, stating, "I have secured the co-operation of the *Wiltshire Independent*, a copy of which I enclose. From the *Bath Journal* I have also received a promise of co-operation; the following is an extract of a letter from the editors:—'We shall be happy at any time to receive any document you may forward us; and any original communication on the subject, temperately and properly written, will, if not exceeding half a column, be sure of insertion.'"

From J. P. Stevens of Bridport (enclosing £3 10s. for cards of membership); from J. R. Robinson of Leamington; Charles Clarke of Bath; J. Manning, Leicester; J. Marriage, jun., Chelmsford; F. Cooper, Southampton; Rev. J. E. Davis, Gloucester; J. Childs, Bungay; Rev. H. Solly, Tavistock; W. Beadon, Taunton; G. Giles, Brighton; J. Wells, Kettering; J. H. Wilson, Aberdeen; W. P. Burnett, King's Lynn; J. B. Harvey, Colchester; J. Dunlop, Edinburgh; J. Hills, Sunderland; F. J. Thompson, Bridgwater; and S. Darke, Worcester.

STOCKPORT.—ELECTION OF DELEGATES.—On Wednesday a public meeting was held in the Chartist Association room, Bomber's Brow, for the purpose of electing two proper persons as delegates to the National Conference meeting to be held at Birmingham, on the 27th instant. Mr J. Webb in the chair. A resolution to send two delegates was put and carried, and the various speakers entertained their audience with denunciations of the Complete Suffrage movement and Mr Sturge, charging the latter gentleman with calling the conference in order to induce the chartists to agitate for the repeal of the corn laws! Thomas Clark, John Ellinson, James Mitchell, and Joseph Carter, were each proposed as delegates to represent the chartists of Stockport in the Birmingham conference. Clark and Ellinson were the two elected. It was afterwards resolved—"That we instruct our delegates to move or support a resolution, in the conference, adopting, as their proposed bill, that document called the people's charter, in name and principle, as we believe the adoption of that document would do much to win the confidence of the working classes, and create a reconciliation between the middle and the working classes, who by that means might, ere long, prevail against the common enemy."

BRIGHTON.—ELECTION OF DELEGATES.—On Tuesday evening last a public meeting was held at the Town hall, to elect delegates to the Birmingham conference. Mr John Good in the chair. A great deal of opposition was manifested by the O'Connorite chartists, first, on the ground that the meeting was illegal, afterwards in an attempt to dissolve the meeting. A good deal of confusion and discussion afterwards ensued, on the appearance of Mr Bronterre O'Brien, as an attempt had been made to prevent, if possible, his nomination as a candidate by certain of the chartists. Mr Charles Brooker was then proposed, seconded, and unanimously elected as a delegate to represent the electors of Brighton. Mr Colling then proposed Mr O'Brien as the delegate from the non-electors. This was seconded and carried with only two dissentients. Mr Brooker and Mr O'Brien afterwards addressed the assembly. An attempt was made to create a disturbance during the course of the latter gentleman's speech, but was soon suppressed; and the answers Mr O'Brien gave in reference to the charges brought against him, of being a traitor to the chartist cause, completely satisfied the meeting, and elicited loud applause.

LYNN REGIS.—ELECTION OF DELEGATES.—At a public meeting of the inhabitants, convened by hand-bill, and held on Wednesday the 7th

inst, for the purpose of electing four delegates to represent this town at the forthcoming national conference; the following gentlemen were declared duly elected:—Mr James Jowell, Mr John Field, Mr Joseph Corbett, and Mr Francis Evans.

SUNDERLAND.—ELECTION OF DELEGATES.—The public meeting called by advertisement and large placards, for the purpose of sending delegates to the national conference, to be held at Birmingham on Tuesday the 27th inst., was held in the lecture room of the Sunderland Athenæum on Tuesday evening last. It was large and respectable. On the motion of Alderman Bowmaker, seconded by Mr Thomas Wight, ironfounder, Mr John Hills, grocer, took the chair. The Chairman stated the objects of the meeting, and of the forthcoming conference, in a speech of some length, and read the circulars of the council of the National Complete Suffrage Union relative to these meetings. Mr Thomas Thompson, solicitor, after a few observations on the necessity of union, and the great importance of the forthcoming conference, moved—

"That this meeting views with great interest and anxiety the forthcoming national conference of the middle and working classes, which is to be held in Birmingham; and believing that it may, if its proceedings be characterised by justice and wisdom, be the means of cementing an irresistible union between both classes of the people, hereby resolves that four delegates be now chosen to represent the borough of Sunderland in that assembly."

Mr James Taylor, watchmaker, seconded the resolution. He made some pertinent observations on the gross calumny with which the working classes were assailed by the press, when any one or a dozen individuals, out of the many millions, did anything that was wrong. The motion was put and carried unanimously. Mr John Bruce, grocer, moved the next resolution—

"That the following persons be elected for that purpose—viz., Joseph Sturge, Esq., of Birmingham; William Prowsing Roberts, Esq., of Bath; Mr James Williams, and Mr Thompson, both of Sunderland. And that these delegates be instructed to support the six points of the people's charter, or complete suffrage as defined by these points; that they do not propose or agree to any compromise of these principles; that they be and are hereby further instructed, to oppose any attempt to connect any other questions with that of the suffrage movement; and that they agree to such details only as may seem best calculated to secure to the people, as speedily as possible, the blessing of just laws made by their own representatives."

Mr William Chappel seconded this motion, in a speech displaying much feeling and eloquence. Mr Dolby asked if an answer had been received from Mr Roberts; when it appeared there had not. He then suggested, that in case he should be elected for any other place, that another should be elected in his stead by that meeting, or another meeting be called. The motion was then put and carried unanimously. Mr Thomas Thompson then moved, that in case Mr Roberts was elected for any other place, that Arthur Albright Esq., of Birmingham, be elected in his stead, and Alderman Bowmaker seconded the motion.

BRIDPORT.—ELECTION OF DELEGATES.—On the evening of Monday, the 5th instant, a public meeting was held at the rooms of the Complete Suffrage association of Bridport, for the purpose of electing delegates to the approaching conference in Birmingham. J. P. Stephens, Esq., councillor, was called to the chair. Joseph Rane, a working man, proposed, and Thomas Ewens, Esq., councillor, seconded the nomination of Mr Charles Sturge, of Birmingham, as one of the delegates from Bridport; the other nominated was Mr Charles Clarke of Bath, proposed by Jos. Millman, operative, and seconded by the Rev. R. E. B. Maclellan, unitarian minister. The different proposers and seconders delivered addresses in favour of complete suffrage—on the rights of the working classes—on the evils of class legislation—on the mental and moral fitness of the poor for the exercise of the franchise—and on the absolute necessity of basing the present movement upon the principles of peace and of Christianity. The room was thronged to suffocation, and even the stairs were crowded; yet the utmost regularity and good feeling prevailed. Although many adversaries of popular freedom were present, they offered no opposition to the proceedings; not a single improper sentiment was uttered, nor a single improper emotion was manifested; and the different resolutions were unanimously adopted. After a vote of thanks to the Chairman, the meeting separated as peaceably as it had deliberated.

TODMORDEN.—ELECTION OF DELEGATES.—A public meeting, called by requisition, was held in this town on Wednesday week; James Fielden, Esq., and Mr Henry Shepherd were elected delegates to the conference at Birmingham. After the business of the public meeting had been gone through, Mr Henry Shepherd came forward and delivered his views upon the people's charter, and the steps that ought to be taken, both in and out of conference: he pledged himself to support the National Charter association, and the charter, name and all.

EXETER.—ELECTION OF DELEGATES.—A public meeting convened by the Exeter Complete Suffrage Union was held on Tuesday se'n-night, for the purpose of electing delegates to represent that city in the Birmingham conference. About 400 persons were present, and the utmost harmony and good feeling prevailed. Mr T. Besley was called to the chair. After a few observations from the Chairman, Mr Clarke explained the object of the conference, and enforced the necessity of union. Mr Wilkinson and Mr Edward Davy of Crediton were then proposed as delegates, and carried by overwhelming majorities. A slight opposition was manifested by two or three individuals to the appointment of the latter gentleman, but they met with no sympathy from the meeting. Messrs Wilkinson and Davy then addressed the meeting at some length in explanation of their views. A resolution was then passed, that a collection should be made by the meeting for defraying the expenses of their delegates, and a provisional committee was also appointed to manage subscriptions for the same purpose.

WARRINGTON.—ELECTION OF A DELEGATE.—A requisition having been sent to the constables of this town, requesting them to call a public meeting for the purpose of electing a delegate to the Birmingham conference, and they having refused, the requisitionists called a public meeting by placard, which was held in the Chartist room. Mr T. Lowe was called to the chair. A resolution was passed, that one delegate should be sent to represent the town, and Mr B. Dromgoole, a member of the National Charter association, was unanimously appointed.

BRIDGWATER.—ELECTION OF DELEGATES.—A requisition was presented to the Mayor last week, requesting him to call a town meeting to appoint delegates to the national conference, to be held at Birmingham the 27th inst, for the purpose of preparing a bill to be submitted to parliament for securing the just representation of the whole people. His worship declined calling such meeting, neither would he allow the use of the Town hall for the purpose. The members of the Complete

Suffrage association, therefore, issued placards requesting the inhabitants to assemble in public meeting at the Mansion-house inn, on Friday evening, the 9th inst, to elect delegates to the said conference. The meeting was numerously attended, and entire unanimity prevailed, save and except a little grumbling on the part of a few tory spies who were present. Mr C. Clarke, member of the National Union, addressed those assembled on the objects of the conference; when Mr Thomas Hill, baker, and Mr F. J. Thompson, ironmonger, were proposed and elected delegates for this borough.

LEICESTER.—PREVENTION OF A MEETING TO ELECT DELEGATES.—The meeting of the electors called for Friday evening, at the New hall, for the election of two representatives to the Birmingham conference, was obstructed by a degree of violence on the part of the chartists of the O'Connor school almost unprecedented even in the history of their atrocities. A perfect organisation had evidently been entered into. The approaches and entries to the New hall were thronged at an early hour by a number of the most notorious wretches belonging to the faction in this town, who forcibly obstructed the entrance of the electors. Some most respectable gentlemen were very roughly treated, while all were refused admission in the most insulting manner. When two or three gentlemen, members of the committee of the Complete Suffrage association, were in the lobby, and were recognised by a few of the ringleaders, a cry of "Shut the outside doors!" was raised; and had not this been frustrated by the pressure of the crowd, serious consequences would doubtless have followed. A party of police were on their way to the place, for the purpose of clearing an entrance for the electors, but before their arrival, the inner doors of the hall, which had been kept locked on the inside, were forcibly burst open, and the room was quickly occupied by the lowest rabble of Leicester, with Cooper most appropriately at their head. Prior to this last outrage, the Chairman of the Complete Suffrage committee had given notice in the room that, as the electors were forcibly prevented from entering, the meeting announced would not be held. We understand that it is intended to bring some of the chief actors in this infamous transaction before the magistracy.—*Leicestershire Mercury*.

EDINBURGH.—ELECTION OF DELEGATES.—A public meeting of the inhabitants of this city was held on Monday evening, the 5th inst, in the Rev. Dr Ritchie's church, Potter row, for the purpose of electing delegates to the Birmingham conference, to meet on the 27th inst. John Dunlop, Esq., of Brockloch, was in the chair. After explaining the object of the meeting, he stated that a requisition was sent to the Lord Provost to call the meeting, but who, on various grounds, declined so to do. The Rev. James Robertson, of Newington, then moved the first resolution, in a speech of some length on the present state of the country and the relative position of parties. The resolution proposed that six delegates should be sent from Edinburgh to the Birmingham conference. The motion, after being seconded by Mr Watson, was unanimously carried. The following six individuals were then successively nominated as candidates for the office of delegates:—The Rev. Dr Ritchie; Mr Lowrey (the chartist lecturer); Mr John Dunlop of Brockloch; Mr Henry Rankine (an operative); Mr Joseph Sturge; and Mr T. S. Duncombe, M.P. Considerable and somewhat noisy opposition was manifested to the election of Mr Lowrey on the part of some of the extreme chartists, who declared their disbelief both of "the soundness of his head and the honesty of his heart." A Mr Cockburn was nominated in opposition to Mr Lowrey, but succeeded in procuring but a few votes. Four of the candidates first proposed were unanimously carried, and in the case of the other two, only two or three hands were held up against them. On Mr Duncombe being proposed, it was asked if a delegate could consistently represent more than one town. Mr Blackie replied that he might represent three or four towns, but still he had only one vote. Mr Dunn proposed a motion to the effect, that the delegates be instructed not to make any compromise with the corn-law party. Dr Glover, while he agreed with the sentiments expressed in the motion, moved an amendment, that this meeting have full confidence in the delegates appointed, and that they be sent to the conference free and unfettered. The amendment was carried by a large majority. Mr Blackie moved that this meeting pledge itself to pay the expenses of sending the delegates away; which was carried. Subscription sheets were sent round the meeting for subscriptions. While the sheets were receiving signatures, the Rev. Dr Ritchie and Mr Lowrey spoke at some length, after which the meeting separated. The church was well filled by a decent audience of the middle and working classes; although during one part of the evening some noise and confusion ensued, from that common cause which operates at most public assemblies—the inordinate love of some people to hear themselves talking; on the whole the meeting was conducted and resulted in a manner which gives much promise of future prosperity to the good cause in Edinburgh. The manly and honest manner in which Mr Lowrey repelled the silly and ill-natured attacks made upon him did him great credit, and must raise him still higher in the estimation of both the chartists and the complete suffragists.

ELDERSLIE.—ELECTION OF A DELEGATE.—A meeting of the inhabitants of this locality was held in the school room last Monday evening to hear a lecture from a Mr Samuel Kidd, from Glasgow, and to elect a delegate to represent them in the Birmingham conference. At the conclusion of Mr Kidd's lecture, Mr Charles Thorpe of Birmingham was unanimously elected as the Elderslie representative, with whole-hog instructions. Votes of thanks were awarded to the lecturer and chairman, and the meeting quietly broke up, highly gratified with the evening's proceedings.—*Glasgow Saturday Post*.

DUNDEE.—ELECTION OF DELEGATES.—Our election of delegates for the Birmingham conference, took place on Friday evening. The result has been the election of one candidate put forth by the complete suffrage section, and one by the chartist. The delegates are Mr W. Davidson, and Mr O. Rowland. Mr Davidson's election was carried by a majority over the non-electors proposed by the complete suffragists. The vote in the case of Mr Rowland was unanimous. The meeting was a numerous one, and in every sense a public meeting; being called by bills posted throughout the town, and open to all who wished to attend. The proceedings throughout were conducted in the most orderly and pacific manner; which goes far to prove the position advanced in the *Nonconformist*, that man, if treated with liberality and confidence, is not the refractory being which state-priests would represent him to be. Numbers who were present as

spectators, and who are not fully prepared for the adoption of the full measure of justice for which we contend, are obliged to admit that our proceedings throughout were conducted more business-like and orderly than what obtains in assemblies far less numerous, and of infinitely higher pretensions to propriety of conduct.—*From a Correspondent.*

SALTCOATS.—ELECTION OF DELEGATES.—On Friday evening the inhabitants of Saltcoats met in the church of the Rev. Mr Ronald, for the election of delegates to the approaching suffrage conference at Birmingham. The Rev. Mr Giffen occupied the chair. Mr Malcolm, jun., of Glasgow, introduced the business of the evening by a lecture on the question of complete suffrage, the importance of the conference, and the past and present policy of chartists and complete suffragists. Thereafter the meeting proceeded to the election. The Rev. Mr Giffen was proposed and seconded, but respectfully declined, owing to the state of his health. He, at the same time, returned his hearty thanks for the honour they had done him, by proposing his name to this most respectable audience. Mr James Henderson, vice-president of the Saltcoats Complete Suffrage association, and J. P. Reid, Esq., of Washington mill, Glasgow, president of the Glasgow Complete Suffrage association, were next proposed, seconded, and unanimously elected, to represent Saltcoats and neighbourhood in the conference. There was only one dissenting voice against Mr Reid. With that exception, both candidates were carried by acclamation. After votes of thanks to the chairman, the lecturer, and the managers of the church, the meeting quietly separated.

POLLOCKSHAW.—ELECTION OF A DELEGATE.—On Thursday evening, the 8th instant, a public meeting was convened here for the purpose of electing a delegate to the forthcoming conference, to be held on the 27th instant at Birmingham, ex-provost Ralston in the chair. The meeting, though not very numerous, was very respectable. After the meeting had agreed to appoint a delegate, Mr Pollock moved, in substance, the following resolutions and instructions:—1st. That our delegates support the whole of the six points of the charter, as the foundation of a bill to be afterwards submitted to parliament. 2nd. That in the event of any discussion on the question of free trade, he gives his unqualified opposition to all and every monopoly, whether in church or state. 3rd. That, as the name of the charter involves no principle, that our delegate be left to his own judgment to fix whatever name may appear best adapted to characterise our future operations, and the objects of our union. 4th. That his conduct be in accordance with peace, law, and order. Mr Maxwell having seconded the propositions, they were carried unanimously. Two candidates were then put in nomination, Mr Charles M'Ewan and Niel M'Bride. After a few observations the vote was then taken, when Mr M'Ewan was duly elected. A vote of thanks was then given to the chairman, and the meeting quietly separated.

BOROUGH OF SOUTHWARK.—On Friday evening, a meeting of the inhabitants of the borough took place, at the Three Tuns tavern, for the purpose of adopting necessary measures for convening a meeting at the Town hall, to elect delegates to represent that borough at the ensuing conference. The meeting, which was well attended, was chiefly composed of members of the working classes. Resolutions agreeing to send four delegates to the conference and to raise a subscription to defray their expenses were adopted; and subsequently a motion was agreed to, to present a requisition to the high bailiff of the borough of Southwark, calling on him to convene a meeting for the above-named purpose.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—The Complete Suffrage society of Newcastle and Gateshead met on Monday night, and elected officers as follows:—Sir John Fife, president; W. H. Brockett, Esq., vice-president; Mr George Charlton, corresponding secretary; Mr Thomas Wilcke, minute secretary; Mr John Bradburn, assistant secretary; and Messrs Joshua Watson, jun., David Adam (minister of the gospel), John Blakey, George Dodds, James Clephan, Charles Larkin, Robert Tiffin, C. A. Windeatt, James Rewcastle, W. Greaves, Joseph Watson, J. Gilmore, Robert Allen, Joseph Jackson, James Potts, John Fawcett, Richard Ayre, H. Briggs, Joseph Bell, R. Hawks, W. Rickaby, John Leech, A. D. Young, and R. Craggs, council.—*Gateshead Observer.*

READING, BERKS.—A public meeting was held here on Tuesday se'nnight, when Mr Vincent delivered an introductory lecture on the subject of complete suffrage. The sentiments were well received; and steps are likely to be taken to form a complete suffrage union immediately. There are other places in this county ripe to receive democratic principles. Jabez Vines and Henry James of Reading, Lawrence Heyworth of Liverpool, and George Goodricke, have been appointed delegates to the conference at Birmingham. Mr Vincent has promised to visit Reading again at the earliest opportunity.

DERBY.—On Monday evening, the 5th instant, the Complete Suffrage Union in this town held its first quarterly general meeting; Mr Hutchinson in the chair. The Secretary, instead of reading a report which there had not been time to propose, gave a short account of the state of the association. The room in which they were assembled had been engaged at a rent of 7l. per year, and the committee had taken steps to furnish it as soon as their funds would permit. The room was opened two nights in the week—on the Monday for receiving subscriptions, and afterwards for entering into a debate upon a subject proposed the week previous; and on the Thursday for reading the *Nonconformist* and transacting general business. The secretary also stated that the town had been divided into twelve districts, and a head appointed to each; and that the association would soon be efficiently organised. After a few minor matters had been disposed of, a long conversation was entered upon relative to the conduct to be pursued in the election of delegates to the Birmingham conference, which ended in the appointment of a second deputation to consult with the chartists as to the terms upon which the two bodies could co-operate. Mr Beggs of Nottingham was present, and addressed the meeting.

DEVIZES.—A lecture on parliamentary representation was delivered at the British school room of this town on Tuesday evening last, by the Rev. Thomas Spencer, of Hinton Charterhouse, near Bath. Between 400 and 500 persons, comprising among them many of the most respectable tradesmen and mechanics of the town, were present, and showed by their earnest attention the interest they felt in the subject. Mr Spencer took up the various points that constitute complete suf-

frage, demonstrated their safety and necessity, and took a comprehensive view of the political state and events of the country as bearing on this question. Mr Spencer was loudly cheered at the close of his lecture. Mr G. W. Anstie proposed a vote of thanks to Mr Spencer, which was carried by acclamation. Several hearty cheers were given for Mr Spencer, and the meeting separated. The *Wiltshire Independent* says that the question of parliamentary reform is becoming a prominent topic of interest among the politicians of that district, and signifies its willingness to open its columns to a discussion of the subject.

GLASGOW.—The directors of the Complete Suffrage association met on Friday last; Mr Ballantyne in the chair. The secretary read minutes of former meetings; and, on the motion of Messrs M'Kinlay and M'Farlane, it was agreed that the members be visited, with a view to electing wardens for the better organisation of the various districts of the city. Arrangements for a social tea meeting in January were also made, and some small committees appointed for collecting accounts, previous to auditing the treasurer's books for the first half-year. We omitted, in a former notice, to give publicity to a meeting of the inhabitants of Maryhill, at which it was agreed, too, unanimously that a complete suffrage association be formed. The meeting was addressed by Mr C. M'Ewen and the Secretary of the Glasgow association.

GENERAL NEWS.

FOREIGN.

SPAIN.

The announcement of the capitulation of Barcelona, conveyed by French telegraph some few days ago, was altogether premature. The bombardment of the city was suspended during the negotiations between the Regent and the city respecting the terms of capitulation. The Regent would listen to no terms emanating from the directive Junta, nor from a deputation headed by the Bishop of Barcelona. He required the city to surrender at discretion. As soon as the result of their missions was known, a meeting was held of the civil authorities, and it was then decided to refuse the demand made by Espartero, and to resist to the very last. The *sommaten* was sounded—a terrible signal which summons all to arms. Shortly after, a party of the national guards made a sortie, and had even the boldness to attack a part of the escort of the Regent between San Felin and Barcelona. The leaders of the republican party, and their immediate adherents, had nearly all decamped, to the number of 150, in a French steamer, which carried them to Port Vendres. When the answer of the Regent, refusing to agree to the conditions proposed on the 2nd inst., for the capitulation of Barcelona, was received, the Junta met, and decided on submission; and the editor of the *Republicano*, having opposed this, was arrested. Carsy, the ex-president of the directing Junta, sought refuge on board the *Méléagre*. The telegraph dispatch, dated the 5th inst., stated that the bombardment commenced on the 3rd, and that the whole of Catalonia was rising to hasten to the succour of Barcelona. The same telegraph stated, on the faith of the conductor of diligence, that the arrival of the British ships had exasperated the people, and that the cry was, "Down with the English, and long live France." The latter appears to have been a pure fabrication. The bombardment of Barcelona commenced at 11 o'clock in the morning of the 3rd, and continued without interruption until 12 at night. Eight hundred and seventeen projectiles were thrown into the city with dreadful effect. After the firing had ceased, General Van Halen summoned the city to surrender, and allowed the authorities six hours to disarm the free corps, who still held out, and threatened in case of non-compliance to resume the bombardment. The authorities called a meeting of the notable inhabitants, and, aided by a considerable portion of the population, succeeded in disarming the insurgents. They then opened the gates, and General Van Halen and the troops made their entry into the city about 5 o'clock in the afternoon of the 4th. The city suffered materially, but the amount of damage and the number of victims were not accurately ascertained. The houses of a square on which the municipality stands were particularly damaged; and fires had broken out in different quarters, which were not extinguished on the 5th. The crews of the French ships of war had, by the direction of their consul, landed their engines, and were rendering every assistance. It was thought that Van Halen would lay a war contribution of 2,000,000 piasters on the city. The Regent had not yet entered Barcelona. Shortly after entering Barcelona, and when his troops had taken possession of the different posts, General Van Halen issued the following *bando*:—

"Art. 1. The city of Barcelona is declared to be in an exceptionable state, since the first shot fired against the troops of which the brave army is composed. This state of siege will continue as long as circumstances shall require.

"Art. 2. The entire National guard is, and shall remain dissolved, until its re-organisation shall have been completed, according to the terms of the law.

"Art. 3. All arms and warlike stores belonging to the said National guard, shall be delivered up at the Atarazanas, within 24 hours from the publication of this decree.

"Art. 4. Any one who shall have failed to comply with the preceding article within 24 hours, shall be shot.

"Art. 5. The person who shall denounce the existence of fire-arms in the hands of individuals, or in a dwelling-house or establishment, shall receive 10,000 reals on such arms being discovered. This sum to be paid by the person, or by the master of the establishment in which such arms shall be found.

"Art. 6. Every inhabitant of Barcelona, shall, within two days, deliver up every offensive weapon of which he may be possessed, even fowling pieces. If the authorities think proper to suffer arms to remain in the possession of any individual, a license will be given for that purpose.

"Art. 7. Whoever shall neglect to conform to the preceding article shall pay a fine of 10,000 reals. Half of this sum to be paid to defray the expenses of the war, and the other half to the informer.

"Art. 8. All horses, equipages, furniture, silver, and other effects, belonging to the officers of the garrison, which have been carried off or stolen, to be immediately restored, or otherwise those who shall conceal such property must pay the value.

"Art. 9. Whoever shall commit a robbery, or any other crime against public order, shall be punished with death.

"Art. 10. The legally constituted authorities will take care that the perpetrators of crimes be prosecuted for the satisfaction of public revenge. Whoever shall commit an offence by word or deed shall be severely punished. The troops, as well as the people of Barcelona, will throw a veil of oblivion on past events, and embrace one another like brethren. The authorities are, and shall remain, accountable for the execution of the present decree, their mission being only to detect the offenders and punish them.

"Barcelona, December 4, 1842."

There are in Barcelona road, the Rodney and Formidable, British war ships; and they are to be joined by the Cyclops and the Inconstant; the French have there, the Gemappes, the brig *Méléagre*, and the steamers Etna, Gassendi, and another; but it is said that those

vessels are only to maintain a strict neutrality. The British war-ship *Formidable*, which had got on the sands at the mouth of the Llobregat, and was nearly wrecked, was got off by the help of the French war steamers *Gassendi* and *Etna*.

Accounts from Madrid had been received to the 4th instant. The committee appointed to examine the questions connected with the commercial treaty with Great Britain frequently met; and was believed to have at last come to an understanding with Mr Ashton. According to report, cotton cloths of the best quality are, by the new tariff prepared by the commissioners, to be liable to an import duty of 25 per cent, and those of inferior kind to 35. It appears that the cabinet has abandoned the intention of dissolving the Cortes, and means to turn to account the triumph of Espartero over the Barcelonense, in order to pass the commercial treaties with England and Belgium, and other financial bills before the Chambers. The insurrection at Barcelona, was, it is stated, neither a Carlist, progressista, or republican movement. It was a manufacturing and anti-English insurrection, which broke out prematurely, and by mere accident, the chiefs being then in the capital discharging their parliamentary duties. The explosion, it seems, was not to have taken place, until the presentation of the English commercial treaty, when the Catalonian deputies were to have resigned *en masse*, and given the signal of revolt.

PORTUGAL.

Lisbon news has been received to the 5th inst. The municipal election was going on in the Portuguese metropolis, and the government had so far been successful; it was probable that the great bulk of the Municipal Chamber would be composed of its adherents. The government had carried the municipal election of Oporto by a considerable majority. Throughout the districts of Douro and Aveiro they had been equally successful.

The negotiations for the tariff convention were for the present entirely broken off, and it remained to be seen whether the wine interests of Portugal had strength and energy sufficient to force its equitable conclusion.

The affairs under discussion with Rome were again under consideration; and the Patriarch Elect had written a letter of submission, saving, however, the immunities of the church of Portugal. This was understood to have been forwarded, for acceptance or rejection, to the college of Cardinals.

In pursuance of the intimation publicly given some time since, the government had resolved on effecting various savings in the public service; and a dozen decrees had already appeared, including economies to the extent of nearly twenty contos annually.

The coast of Portugal had been visited by fresh storms, and two English vessels had been wrecked: one the *Chatham*, bound for New South Wales; the other was the bark *Wexford*, with a cargo of coals. Five lives were lost. Lord Howard de Walden had exchanged ratifications of an additional article in the Slave-trade treaty, securing to the slaves taken from captured vessels the benefits of any alterations in our colonial regulations tending to improve their condition.

CHINA.

Major Malcolm, the bearer of the despatches from China, with the treaty entered into with the Emperor, landed at Devonport on Friday, from the *Locust* steam vessel. The treaty bears the signatures of the three high commissioners deputed by the Emperor, and sent to Nankin to arrange the terms, &c. Major Malcolm brought a letter of assent from the Emperor himself, solemnly engaging to ratify the treaty as soon as it shall be returned to him with the signature of her Majesty attached thereto. Major Malcolm left Nankin on the 16th, and Hongkong on the 26th of September, in the *Auckland*, and arrived at Suez on the 9th ult. On his reaching Alexandria, no English steamer being present, he proceeded by an Egyptian steamer to Malta, where he arrived on the 20th; but was detained, in consequence of there being no steamer ready to put to sea, till the 26th, when the *Locust* having arrived from Corfu, he proceeded in that vessel to England. Some of the accounts brought by this channel state the sum shipped by the *Blonde* frigate to be five millions of dollars, instead of three millions, as at first stated.

AMERICA.

The ship *North America*, Captain Lowber, which arrived at Liverpool on Wednesday, brought two days later intelligence from the United States, and a large number of returned emigrants.

A great excitement had occurred in New York, by the suicide of John C. Colt, the individual who was tried and condemned some months ago for the Murder of Mr Adams. On the day appointed for his execution, he was married in the presence of the sheriff and officers, to a woman with whom he had formerly cohabited; and at a few minutes before the hour appointed for his execution, and when he was expected to be led forth, the sheriff and attendants, on entering his cell, where he had been left for a short time alone, found him stretched lifeless, having stabbed himself with a large clasp knife, which he had managed to secrete, or which had been conveyed to him. He declared to the last that he had killed Mr Adams in self-defence only.

The schooner *Creole*, Captain Delvaille, arrived at New Orleans on the 8th instant, from Matamoras, in ten days. The army under Gen. Woll had retreated beyond the Rio Grande, and a part of them had arrived at Matamoras. The Mexican authorities had prohibited the circulation of newspapers out of the Mexican territory.

One of those disgraceful scenes of outrage, called *lynching*, had occurred in Barbour county, Alabama, where a mob of 130 persons violently seized a Mr G. W. Lore, who had been thrice tried for a murder of which he was suspected; and without further legal proceedings, he having escaped from gaol, seized and hung him.

Of the state of parties, the correspondent of the *Morning Chronicle*, says—

"The unexpected result of Massachusetts giving a democratic majority, confirms the view taken by all dispassionate persons, namely, that this country is becoming more than ever cemented in the republicanism of democracy. I think that for years we may now look forward to governments, both state and federal, that will carry out democratic doctrines to the farthest extent. Well, at any rate, it will be better than half measures, and much better than the banking bubbles, so much patronised and lauded by the other party."

It is stated that the United States could now export no less than 5,000,000 barrels of flour, worth 25,000,000 dollars.

JAMAICA.

The Jamaica papers received by the *Solway* give the proceedings at the opening of the Legislative Assembly, on the 25th of October. His excellency, the Governor, delivered a long speech, in which he bears testimony to the tranquil state of the colony, and it is allowed that the complaints about the want of labour had gradually subsided. The most important statement, however, is that, owing to the large increase of the exports of the staples this year, and the anticipation of a still further increase in the amount of the coming crops, the agriculturists of Jamaica are willing that the government should deal with the sugar duties, merely securing a certain amount of protection. A committee had been appointed to memorialise the Queen not to give her sanction to the admission of foreign sugar to the home consumption, without establishing such a differential duty, as will give due protection and encouragement to the sugar growers of the British West Indies.

DOMESTIC.

METROPOLITAN.

COURT OF COMMON COUNCIL.—On Thursday a court was held in consequence of a requisition, "to take into consideration the propriety of passing resolutions expressing the urgent necessity of an abolition of all restrictions upon commerce and manufactures, and especially those affecting the importation of corn." Mr R. Taylor introduced his resolutions, which, after setting forth the distress of the country, which he contended was wholly attributable to the restrictions on food, and could only be relieved by their removal, concluded thus, "That this court anxiously appeals to the first minister of the Crown to hasten to give practical effect to his declarations in favour of free trade, and to his assured knowledge that this country, in all its interests, must stand or fall with her commerce and manufactures, by bringing forward at the earliest possible period of the ensuing session of parliament such comprehensive measures for securing the unrestricted supply of food, the general freedom of commerce, the activity of manufactures, and the employment of the people, as may effectually relieve a condition of depression and distress too widely prevailing, and too rapidly increasing, to consist with even the safety of the community, and the preservation of whatever is truly valuable to our social and political institutions." Mr Stacy seconded the resolutions, which were opposed by Mr Lawrence, who moved the previous question as an amendment. Mr Gordon seconded the amendment. Deputy Stevens said the whole country were endeavouring to obtain the repeal of the corn laws, and it would be very extraordinary if the court of common council would not add their voice to the loud and general call. Mr R. Taylor argued in favour of the resolutions, and after some observations from Mr Ashurst, Mr Prendergast, and Mr Wire, on the same side, and from Mr Maitland in favour of the amendment, the question was put, and the amendment was negatived. Mr Ashurst then cut down the original resolutions to a less unwieldy size, preserving, however, all their force, and they were in that shape adopted by the court.

SMITHFIELD CLUB CATTLE SHOW.—This exhibition was on Wednesday visited by several well-known patrons of agriculture among the nobility and gentry. The Earl of Warwick, Earl Spencer, and Lord Cottenham, went round the yard at an early hour, accompanied by the stewards, minutely examining the specimens, and expressing their admiration at the general arrangements. The animal which gains the gold medal, as the best beast in the exhibition (in addition to a prize of £20, and a silver medal), was bred by Sir Charles Tempest, of Broughton hall, Yorkshire, who is considered to have the best breed of short horns in the kingdom. The sale of the fat stock was most rapid, and few animals remained unsold on Friday evening. Many were bought to be conveyed to great distances. Two of the finest in the exhibition were purchased by Mr Newton, a cattle salesman of Jersey, to which island they will be shipped from Southampton.

INCOME TAX APPEALS.—The income tax commissioners were expected to conclude the hearing of appeals for the western ward of the city on Saturday last. The system on which the parties are heard is most excellent, and gives great satisfaction to those who are obliged to appeal against this unpopular act. Each day there are 200 tickets issued, and if there be more than 200 appellants in either day, those above 200 will receive tickets for the adjournment-day; but the board announces that they consider it but right to hear those of the 200 whose cases may not be heard on the first day at the adjournment day before those parties who may not come within the 200, so as to cause as little inconvenience as possible.

HABITS OF THE ARISTOCRACY.—An action was tried in the court of Exchequer last week, brought by Mr Smith, the plaintiff, against Mr Bond, the proprietor of the junior St James's club-house, to recover from him, under the statute of Anne, certain monies unlawfully won of him at the game of hazard. Mr Smith sued the defendant for winning from divers aristocratic gamblers sums amounting to more than 2,600*l*. The principal witness, a man named Thompson, gave the following particulars in his evidence:—

"On the 2nd of June, 1841, a Mr Bredell was present and played at French hazard, and lost in cash £7, and a draft for £200. The cash he paid at the time in sovereigns, which I afterwards paid to the defendant. The draft which was given that night was not a printed draft, but at his request I called next day in Manchester street, when he gave me a printed draft for it; and, having obtained the money for that draft, I handed it over to the defendant. On June 11th, a Captain Courtney was at the table and played. He lost £100 which he paid at once; that money was handed to the defendant. Captain Courtney also played, and lost £100, on the 14th of the same month; he also lost £200 more, which he paid in a draft. The next morning Captain Courtney changed the draft for a check, which I gave to the defendant, who afterwards told me the check had been paid, and that he had received the money. Captain Courtney was there too on the 26th of the same month, and lost £170 in cash, which he at once paid. He also gave a draft that night for £150, which I paid in to the London and Westminster bank to the defendant's account. On June the 29th, Mr Fitzroy Stanhope played at French hazard, and lost £5 in cash, which he paid, and gave a draft for £50, and I think I received the money for it the next day, at Herries and Co's. On the 10th of August Mr Bredell was there, and lost £200, and the next morning he gave me a check on Smith, Payne, and Co. for the amount, and I received the cash for it. On the 25th of August the Marquis of Conyngham was present, and lost £500, which was paid by a bill accepted by his lordship. The bill was given to the defendant. I do not know from the defendant that the bill was paid. On the 27th of August Lord Cantalupo lost £400, which he paid by a bill he had won of the defendant, for £200, a night or two before, and a bill of his own, for a like sum. The bill on the defendant was at one month's date. I do not know that the bill was paid. On the 9th of August General Churchill lost £50, which he paid by a draft, which

was given to the defendant. On the 3rd of December Lord Conyngham again lost another £500, which was paid by a bill. I did not receive the money for that bill."

The jury, after an hour's consultation, found a verdict for the plaintiff, Damages £3,508; one-half of which goes to St James's parish, the other into Mr Smith's own pocket.

HOW TO GET INTO PARLIAMENT.—Some curious facts, forming no bad pendant to the disclosures made by Mr Roebuck's committee last session, transpired during the examination of William Carter in the insolvent court. The insolvent was opposed by Mr Hartland, an officer of the Gloucestershire Banking company, who held two bills of exchange, one for £1,009 5s. 6d., drawn by Peter Borthwick, Esq., M.P. for Evesham, and accepted by the insolvent for his (Mr Borthwick's) accommodation, and the other bill for £1,002 14s. 6d., drawn and accepted by the same parties for a similar purpose. The examination as to these transactions, led to the following disclosures:—

"Mr Cresswell: Why did you, a discharged insolvent, encumbered with debt, accept accommodation bills to the amount of £2,000?"

"Insolvent: I did it to oblige Mr Peter Borthwick, who asked me to do so, that he might discharge his parliamentary accounts, which would enable him to get the money, with which he hoped to take up the bills."

"Examination continued: He had not returned Mr Borthwick as a debtor to his estate."

"The insolvent was next examined by Mr Cooke: He stated that his wife's income at the time of her marriage, in 1809, was about £1,800 or £2,000 per year. He was now 75 years of age. He had known Mr Borthwick for about eight or ten years. He is member of parliament for Evesham, Worcestershire. He had dealings in bills with him, first in October, 1841, when he applied to him, and told him if he could procure the money, he would give him such security as should satisfy the lender. Mr Borthwick told him (insolvent) that there was a fund in the Carlton club, which was reserved for candidates for parliamentary honours of that party, and that there was a sum of £3,000 set aside for him in the hands of certain noblemen and gentlemen whom he named. He (insolvent) believed him, and on this representation went to Mr Bedenham, and told him, but made a reference to Mr Borthwick. This, however, was not required, and £500 was advanced. The next transaction was to enable him to pay the bill of his parliamentary agent, which he stated to be about £1,700. Mr Bedenham renewed the bills on their being dishonoured; but he (insolvent) began to get alarmed, and mentioned his fears to Mr Borthwick, who assured him that all would be right, and said he was sure of being connected with the administration, and talked about diplomatic appointments which he would ask for. He (insolvent) could not tell how the bills came into the hands of the Gloucestershire Banking company, as they were given to pay the agent's bill, and not to negotiate. He had seen Mr Borthwick while at the lock-up house, when he assured him he should not go to prison. Mr Borthwick also came to him in the Queen's prison, but he had not seen him for the last eight or nine weeks. He could not tell where that gentleman was. He had got bills from Mr Borthwick when he was much pressed by his creditors, but those bills had never been paid. Attempts had been made to subpoena Mr Borthwick, but in vain."

PRIVILEGES OF PARLIAMENT.—On Monday, in the Queen's Bench, came on, before Lord Denman and a special jury, the case of "Howard v. Gossett and others." It was an action of trespass brought by the plaintiff (who had acted as the legal adviser of Stockdale, in his various actions against the printers of the House of Commons), against Gossett, the defendant, sergeant-at-arms, and his officers, for their conduct in searching his house, under the Speaker's warrant. The jury found a verdict for the plaintiff—Damages 100*l.* The damages had been laid at 10,000*l.*

In the court of Queen's Bench, on Thursday, Mr Carpue, the celebrated surgeon, brought an action against the directors of the London and Brighton Railway company for an injury sustained through the negligence of their servants. The damages were laid at 1,000*l.* The accident occurred near the station at Hayward's Heath, on the 2nd of October, 1841, by which two of plaintiff's servants were killed, and one of his daughters, who was in a delicate state of health, suffered so much that her death occurred shortly afterwards, and the plaintiff was also much injured. After a lengthened trial, the jury found a verdict for the plaintiff, damages 250*l.*

In the court of Bankruptcy, on Wednesday, a witness stated, among many other things of the kind, that he was employed to raise money for Lord Huntingtower at the Andover election of 1841, and his instructions were to borrow it on any terms. He obtained it in London, and then returned to Andover, having 800*l.* of the money in five pound notes, "to make a show, and produce a great effect." The notes, which were called "physic," were exhibited to "the worthy and independent electors," and produced upon them the "effect" intended.

Jordan, the clerk, who robbed the joint stock bank, has now returned all the stolen money, except 40*l.*, having returned 300*l.* additional of the balance last week.

ACCIDENTS IN THE FOGS.—Dense fogs prevailed in London during the last week, especially on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, and have unfortunately been productive of several accidents as well as inconveniences. Vessels were delayed, and business on the river was almost at a standstill, most of the steamers being unable to make their usual trips, both below and above bridge. Several collisions took place, but were attended with no serious consequences. On Wednesday a boatman was drowned off Rotherhithe in the afternoon, by coming in contact with a coal brig while rowing across the stream. On Wednesday a man named Henry Spinks, aged 69, had occasion to go into his yard during the heavy fog, and considerable time having elapsed without his return, his wife went to seek him, and found him lying in a state of insensibility. Before medical assistance could arrive he was dead. On Monday night Mr Joseph Butler, a custom-house officer, missed his footing and fell into the water as he stepped from a vessel in the London docks, and was drowned.

FIRE IN MINCING LANE.—On Friday night a fire, attended with great destruction of property, broke out on the very extensive and well-known premises in the occupancy of Mr Thompson, tea broker, situate No. 38, Mincing lane. It was first discovered by police constable Allsop, who had his attention directed there by a strong smell of fire, and before he had sufficient time to rush to the top of the premises, the flames shot through the window, and were spreading with amazing rapidity along the various apartments on the third floor. Messengers were sent to the various engine stations, and the firemen were speedily on the spot; but notwithstanding every exertion, the flames continued to burn for upwards of two hours. The fire was, however, prevented from extending to the adjoining premises. The amount of damage it was expected would exceed 1,000*l.*, but the property is insured.

The capture of a gang of no less than seven noted coiners, was made on Saturday afternoon, in Shoe lane, Holborn. A large number of police entered a house in Robinhood court, and searched the place. Nothing was found on the prisoners, but on searching the chimney of

the room, the officers found upwards of £5 worth of silver in a blue bag, consisting of crowns, half-crowns, shillings, and sixpences of the dye of her present Majesty. The prisoners, seeing all hope of escape useless, then gave themselves up to the officers, and they were ultimately conveyed to the Smithfield City station house, before Inspector Woodroff, when they gave the names of Smith, Groves, and other believed aliases.

The City of London association has distributed, from December to March, amongst the poor inhabitants of the city, 27,509 bushels of coals at a charge of 6d. per 84lbs., and 385,112lbs. of potatoes, at a charge of 3d. per 14lbs. The balance in hand was 307*l.* 16s. 6d.

LONDON NEWSPAPER READERS.—At a recent meeting of the London Statistical society, it appeared from an inquiry that had been made into "the moral and physical condition of the working classes in the inner ward of the parish of St George, Hanover square," by Mr C. R. Weld, that the newspapers read by the different families were as follows:—The *Times* read by 57 families; *Chronicle*, 14; *Morning Herald*, 11; *Morning Post*, 9; *Morning Advertiser*, 83; *Weekly Dispatch*, 283; *Sunday Times*, 79; *Bell's Life in London*, 23; miscellaneous, 56; the *Northern Star* was read by one family! In all there were 616 families reading newspapers, and 883 not reading newspapers.

THE MORTALITY OF THE METROPOLIS.—The total number of deaths from all causes, registered in the week ending Saturday, December 3, was 882; the weekly autumnal average for the last two and the last four years being 912. The highest temperature during the week was 56, the lowest 40, the daily mean being 48.

THE SHIPPING INTEREST.—In the course of the past week the brooms have disappeared from the mast-heads of many of the ships in the various docks and canals within the port, which may be regarded as a very palpable indication of a favourable move in maritime affairs. The shipwrights, too, who have been—very much to their disadvantage—idle hands about the banks of the Thames for some time, begin to find occupation. The value of tonnage is improving, and with the spring we may expect more general and increased activity.

IRELAND.

CAUSE OF THE OUTRAGES IN IRELAND.—As the real cause of the recent atrocious murders appears to be little known to the English public, we take the following from the *Tipperary Free Press*:—

"Having before given the frightful details of the late catastrophe, we ask, in the name of humanity, will nothing be done to put an end to the cause of all such murders? Will not the government make some attempt to reform the state of the system which, we think, is chargeable with all such atrocities. We now broadly assert that the tenure of land, and the state of the law in general, between landlord and tenant, form the well-head from which every agrarian outrage flows; and what makes it a more dread subject is, that the very perpetrators of crimes which are calculated to make the hair stand on end, have argued themselves into a sincere belief that they are warranted in flying to the wild justice of revenge. With them it would be worse than useless to argue against this horrid doctrine. They hope no relief from landlord-law; and feeling beyond its pale in their protection, they defy its penalties. This feeling exists; it is the monstrous progeny of an unjust and decimating principle; and until the system of which it is an effect shall be replaced by one more consonant with equity—until the duties of the landlords are respected, as well as the rights are enforced—until the strong arm of the law shall compel all to adhere to an adjustment, equitable and efficient, based on the reciprocity which common sense suggests as the best natural tie between landlord and tenant—until the tenant is placed beyond the caprice of his master—until all this shall be achieved by the law, it is Utopian to hope that the outrages, the murders, the attempts to assassinate, can be suppressed! * * * Instead of judicial special commissions, let there be a commission appointed by government to investigate the state of the law between landlord and tenant; the tenure of land; and all measures affecting these several interests. Let that commission report the present anomalous state of society in Tipperary, with a view of replacing it by sound and equitable legislation. Let this be tried, and we shall consent to be denounced as false prophets, if the people of Tipperary do not joyously abandon the wild justice of revenge for the protection of the British constitution. The proposed remedy is truly simple, but let us once again record our verdict, it is the sole panacea."

The same paper then states that Mr O'Connell had been employing his leisure hours in writing a history of Ireland, which was to appear about the commencement of this month.

POSTSCRIPT.

Wednesday, December 14.

The only intelligence of any moment in this morning's papers is the following telegraphic dispatch, received by the French government from Spain:—

"Perpignan, Dec. 9.

"Yesterday the shops were closed at Barcelona. No officers being to be found, 200 soldiers, or militia men, have been arrested, of whom several have been already shot."

"The Formidable had been towed off from Barcelona by the Cyclops, accompanied by an English frigate."

"The Cassendi, which left Barcelona yesterday, touched at Port Vendres with despatches, and 21 military passengers."

The Paris journals, one and all, are most bitter in their denunciations of the conduct of the English in reference to the insurrection at Barcelona.

SOUTHAMPTON.—ELECTION OF DELEGATES.—A large meeting took place at the Long rooms last evening, pursuant to public notice, to elect two delegates to attend the Complete Suffrage convention. The chartists had made every preparation to elect two from their party, and to defeat the complete suffragists. As soon as the meeting assembled, Mr Whalesby was called to the chair. Two chartists, named Bartlett and Brennon, were proposed—the former from Bath, and a member of the late chartist convention, the latter a working man, residing in the Isle of Wight. An amendment was immediately carried by an overwhelming majority, that the two delegates should be Francis Cooper, Esq., surgeon, and member of the town council of this town; and Mr John S. Ekless of Bursledon, a highly respectable and talented yeoman of this neighbourhood, who has distinguished himself by his indefatigable and successful efforts to restore the transported Hampshire labourers to their homes. Mr F. Cooper delivered an eloquent speech after his election.

CORN MARKET. MARK LANE, THIS DAY.

There is no foreign corn arrived to-day, and very little English. No alteration has occurred in Monday's prices.

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

- "S. Munday." We do insert as much information on the topic he alludes to as our space will admit of.
- "One of the League" had better address his letter to Mr Childs.
- "A Subscriber to the Nonconformist." The metropolis, we believe, is without any complete suffrage organisation at present, but will be organised as soon as may be after the conference.
- "A Member of the Newcastle-on-Tyne Complete Suffrage Association." The subject has occupied our own mind for some time, and will, in due course, be dealt with.
- "J. L." With his permission, we will defer his letter, with others that we have received upon the "New Basis of Representation," until the commencement of next year, when we propose to open our columns to a discussion of the subject.
- The correspondent who supplied us with facts, which Mr Westerton denied in our last number, is assured that we have full confidence in his statement, but think it unnecessary to give his letter to the public.
- "Scalpel" declined.

We are requested to mention, that any of our subscribers who are not in the habit of filing the *Nonconformist*, may greatly serve the principles advocated by that paper, by sending copies, when done with, for circulation in Ireland, to Mr W. H. Dyott, 14, North Anne street, Dublin, and Mr Bernard McDonald, Loughrea, Galway.

Terms for advertising in the *Nonconformist*.

For 8 lines5s. 0d.	For 16 lines...7 0	For 24 lines...9 0
10.....5 6	18.....7 6	26.....9 6
12.....6 0	20.....8 0	28.....10 0
14.....6 6	22.....8 6	Every additional 2 lines,

* * Advertisements from the country should be accompanied by a post office order, or reference for payment in London.

TO OUR SUBSCRIBERS.

FROM the commencement of the *Nonconformist*, in April, 1841, we have strongly and increasingly felt the inconvenience of straitened limits. Devoting a considerable space to original articles, we have been unable to mingle with graver matter such a proportion as we could wish of news and entertaining information. We have looked forward with eager hope to the possibility of remedying the defect. We are now happy to announce the completion of arrangements for the realisation of our wishes. The *Nonconformist* will be published from the commencement of next year, at the same price as now, upon a much larger sheet, and in a somewhat altered form, by which we shall gain additional room equivalent to four pages of our present size. This will allow of our combining the two characters of an organ of great principles and an interesting family newspaper. We are thus endeavouring to gratify our subscribers at no slight sacrifice to ourselves. If each of them would endeavour within the next three months to obtain for us one additional subscriber, the alteration will be effected without serious loss, and the cause we advocate will be doubly served. We have already had large proofs of their zeal and kindness, and we confidently anticipate that neither will be wanting in the present case. Of course we have not taken this step without seeing our way clear; but we are not ashamed to add that any free donations, which friends may be disposed to give for carrying out this plan, will not only be acceptable, but accepted.

The Nonconformist.

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1842.

SUMMARY.

HEIGHO! This is a world of ups and downs, hopes and fears, pleasures, disappointments, and sharp discipline. It is like a restless and tumultuous sea, heaving, agitated, billowy, for the most part, but which sometimes reflects from its broad, unrippled bosom for a few moments—too brief moments—the light and lustre of heaven. Not often, however, can we expect to enjoy repose upon the mighty expanse of the political ocean—not often, perhaps, is it desirable that we should. The tide which is constantly alternating, preserves the mass from stagnate corruption. The storm which affrights us, bears on the gallant bark to its destined haven. They who are embarked in a good cause should always cherish the most undoubting faith, and the invariable attendant upon faith is calm and unobtrusive courage. Courage, then, is the word which the honest and sincere should adopt as their motto. Unmanly fears become them not, unfit them for duties, stimulate bad passions, rob them of that presence of mind apart from which discretion cannot exist. To all true friends of just principles, we say, "Go forward and take courage."

We are happy in being able to announce to our friends, the gratifying progress, up to the present moment, of the elections of delegates to the Birmingham conference. Our reports in another column will show that the peaceful character of the movement for complete suffrage, and the conciliatory shape into which it was cast by the first conference, is not likely to be seriously disturbed. The vast majority of accounts which have hitherto reached us, have been of a nature to brighten our hopes of eventual and triumphant success. Here and there, it must be confessed, the professors *par excellence* of democratic principles, have acted in a manner but little congenial with the democratic spirit. We must expect this. Vast masses of society are not all at once to be converted from violent excitement to tranquil and reasonable measures. Time, experience, and reflection, are needed to bring about complete harmony, where hostile discrepancy of feelings has existed for any previous length of time. We must be patient—we must exercise forbearance—we must persevere. Holding fast by our principles, we must allow as much as possible for the play of those untoward dispositions, which long alienation and consequent misapprehension never fail to awa-

ken. The friends of the complete suffrage cause, however, must by no means relax their exertions. Let them think nothing is done, where more remains to do; and if, in the crowded manufacturing districts, wherein evil influences have soured the minds of both classes, the election of delegates cannot be successfully attempted, there are hundreds of towns, scattered over the face of England and Scotland, in which the voice of reason may prevail, and which consequently might greatly reinforce the cause of peaceful parliamentary reform. Let the friends of complete suffrage, in such places, look to it.

The question of a repeal of the corn laws has assumed a somewhat unexpected shape. We must say that, looking at the proceedings of the Anti-corn-law League, we had come to the conclusion that many campaigns would precede final victory. When men attempt to raise a large sum of money, when they deliberately devote a portion of it to the erection of a building for the more suitable accommodation of public meetings at head quarters, and when they cease to talk of forcing Sir Robert Peel, and drop down to an anticipation of a large minority in the next parliament, we conclude they have made up their minds to a protracted contest. Events, however, may possibly cut their work short. The *Globe* announces, upon what authority we know not, that in the next session of parliament, which it is now arranged will meet on the 2nd of February for the dispatch of business, the Premier will bring forward a modified plan of a fixed duty of 12s. upon the importation of foreign corn; giving, at the same time, power to the ministry of the day to reduce that duty to 6s. in favour of nations who are inclined to give us, by treaty, adequate commercial advantages. We are not disposed to place much dependence upon this announcement of cabinet secrets. It is denied, we see, by the *Standard*; but certainly the new light which is breaking in upon the farmers, and the recent speeches of the Duke of Rutland, T. D. Acland, Esq., M.P., Mr Miles, M.P., and Mr Dickinson, M.P., upon which we have commented at some length elsewhere, may be regarded as somewhat novel signs of the times. Ere long, perhaps, the farmers may discover that the best system for their interests would be one that went to the abolition of all monopolies; nor do we even despair of their arriving at the conclusion that complete suffrage is the only effectual instrument for releasing them from the fetters in which their landlords have held them. So long as they are political slaves it is quite impossible they can be thrifty farmers.

The treaty of Nankin has arrived in this country to receive the signature of Queen Victoria, and with it a mass of official documents, the publication of which cannot be expected until the next *Gazette*. Barcelona, after sustaining a bombardment of a few hours, has surrendered, and the troops of the Regent have marched into the city. It would appear that French intrigue has been active in playing upon the hatred of the English cherished in Catalonia, the seat of Spanish manufacturing industry. The pending commercial treaty between England and Spain had produced sufficient dissatisfaction in that district to offer an opportunity for getting up a disturbance. An insurrection, in the name of republicanism, and for the protection, as it is called, of native industry, was a fit tool by which to work out unavowed, but well known, ambitious designs—a tool which would have been used as long as it proved serviceable, and then thrown aside. Happily it has snapped asunder without causing extensive mischief; and the poor inhabitants of Barcelona will have to lament in tears and blood, the closet and family intrigues of foreign potentates.

WHEREFORE?

THE ensuing conference at Birmingham will, we now confidently predict, be, as every rational friend of freedom would have it, a deliberative body. Our anxieties respecting the composition of it may be said to have ceased. It will consist mainly of men who, devoted to the ultimate attainment of the object they profess, will hold themselves at liberty to exercise judgment upon, and to adopt, the most reasonable and likely means for its accomplishment. There will be, we anticipate, ample room for the play of deliberation. The conference will not be shut up, by the folly and the power of faction, to a course which they would not have freely and intelligently chosen. Should there be some few members of it whose ostensible end differs from their avowed one, and who are set upon indulging an overbearing temper at the risk of sacrificing every nobler interest, they will be too small a minority either to command an inglorious success or to necessitate a deviation, by the main body, from the path of reason, conciliation, and practical wisdom. We believe, then, that every delegate, earnestly intent upon a legislative embodiment of democratic principles, may go up to that gathering, feeling himself free to consider, free also to decide upon, every matter which is brought before him, on its own substantial merits. And whatever difference of opinion may obtain in regard to the precise mode of working out their views, it will be strange indeed if men already agreed upon leading principles, and devoutly anxious that that agreement may extend to details, cannot arrive at some mutually satisfactory understanding. We have not only faith that they can, but hope that they will—and, in the strength of that hope, we venture to remind our friends of the definite objects at which it will become them to aim. A clear and unmistakable view of the end will be the best key to most of the perplexities of the way—and if, as each topic of discussion comes before him for judgment, every delegate shall have previously settled in his own mind "wherefore" the conference meets, and in the light of that "wherefore" will frame his decision, we are sure he will get involved in no inextricable difficulties, and that he will be able to proceed with confidence to the very close of his course.

The conference will be called upon to give a *verbal* body to

principle upon which all its members are agreed—complete and *bonâ fide* national representation. The thing exists now, in so far at least as the proposed convocation is concerned, only as an abstract idea; the general features of which, indeed, have been defined, so far as to give assurance to all parties interested that they mean the same thing, and that representation, to be real and not nominal merely, implies certain leading characteristics. The idea is now to pass into a verbal shape, in order to bring it under the consideration of parliament, with a view to its assuming a legislative and practical one. The invisible and intangible thought is to put on a body of words—the “what,” settled at the first conference, is now to be more definitely marked out by the “how.” The general object, which has already been exhibited to the public mind, is to be embodied in a specific plan. We have determined upon a building, for purposes in which all unite. Previously, however, to the laying of a single stone, we need full drawings of the work to be executed, in which every hall and chamber, window, staircase, and closet, is measured out, relatively arranged, and minutely penciled. This, then, may be looked upon as the immediate and main business of the ensuing conference. Their first care must be in correspondence with this. They will bring all their intelligence, we trust, all their experience, all their knowledge of life, all their powers of invention and of judgment, to bear, with an honest intent to give to the principles of complete suffrage as perfect an expression as possible. There may be no reason for suspicion, but there is every reason for the most lynx-eyed vigilance. It matters nothing who may be the parties, or how transparently pure their motives, who may submit their matured and elaborated measures to the delegates in conference. Those measures must be closely inspected, examined with diligence, and decided upon with strict impartiality. The most honest men are not proof against mistake. In the multitude of counsellors there is wisdom. What has escaped the notice of one mind may occur to that of another. Flaws, which the eyes of one may not detect, may be caught sight of instantly by others. That which should be sought first, chiefly, and with the greatest anxiety, is as perfect a development, in legal form, of the principles of representation formerly adopted, as the imperfections of human sagacity will admit of.

In subordination to, and in harmony with, this, the supreme end of the ensuing conference, the delegates will do well, we think, to keep in mind the general character of the way thither. They are to arrive at what they seek by *persuasion*. They are not about to constitute a legislative body, whose votes will be decisive of law for the country. When they have fully discussed their bill, settled all its provisions, and inscribed upon it its title, they will have to win for it public opinion. They are but, as it were, a provisional committee, meeting to draw up a measure to be afterwards submitted, for adoption, to the country at large. And of this fact it will become them never to lose sight. They want not only a bill, but a bill which will attract attention, which will invite inspection, and which will commend itself to the respect of honest men. Their *fiat* will require, in order to prove of the smallest importance, public ratification. It will be, consequently, extremely desirable, if may be, without putting the principles in peril, to cast them into that mould which will be best adapted to please the larger body whom they will presently address. Needless attacks upon what is well known to be a prevailing taste should be avoided. Accommodations, as far as they may be proved safe and practicable, to ancient habits, established modes of thought, and harmless, even if they be blind, prepossessions, should be admitted. It will be their wisdom to settle as much as possible, by methods which will unsettle as little as possible. Where they can work in existing machinery, without detriment to the cause, it will serve their object to do so. In short, the edifice they are about to rear to British liberty, if they would ever have it inhabited, must, besides being substantially what the case requires, be modified to suit a British climate, and to appeal to British tastes. The general plan of it, the *facade*, the style, and the *tout ensemble* of it, ought to be in harmony with the mind of the country. This will greatly facilitate future work; and, if well attended to, will gain the acquiescence of thousands in our principles, before prejudice has time to interpose. The most contradictory thing the conference can possibly do, is to irritate disgust by unnecessary shocks of prevailing opinion, and when they have done that, to present their plan for public concurrence and co-operation.

The delegates will further, we trust, keep a steady eye upon their own position. They assume a mediatorial office. They have to consult two great parties, and by consulting, harmonise them. These parties, however, require very different treatment. The one, the working men, not only adopt, but are strongly attached to, the principles which the conference meet to embody. The other, the electoral class, have yet to be won over to an espousal of those principles. These latter will call for all the arts of persuasion; those former for all due manifestations of respect. We must guard against provoking the first, we must aim to conciliate the last. The cordial good-will of the labouring class is *important*—the consent of electors is absolutely *necessary*. Through the narrow door of the present constituent body our measure *must* pass—a measure to be characterised by integrity in reference to all its principles. If, in order to its passage, a special adaptation of form be required, asking at the hands of working men a sacrifice of predilections, it will be well for the delegates of the middle class, on the one hand, to do their office gently, considerably, and with every appropriate mark of respect; and for those of the industrious section of the community, on the other, to reflect that they have already gained a recognition of every one of their principles—that the question is not who *ought* to sacrifice most in the matter of mere form, but on which side sacrifice will be followed by largest gain—and that they who retain the substance may well consent to part with the shadow. The truth is

this. They and we, united in respect of the object we want, have to ask it at the hands of electors. We know that body to be, at present, extremely disinclined to grant our request. We confer together, therefore, to determine the precise form in which it shall be put. Now we think it will be wise to look at, not who drew up this form, or by whom that was devised—not whether this or the other form can claim priority—but, what form will be most likely to ensure us a patient hearing, and ultimately to obtain for us a favourable judgment. If, indeed, the decision of middle-class delegates could bind the body they represent in conference, the matter would assume another aspect. But it is not so. The whole body of delegates, represent whom they may, will be mainly in the same relative position in respect of the parliamentary constituency of Great Britain. All of them will be seeking the same boon at the same unwilling hands; and the true policy would appear to us, in such case, to be, for the willing parties, whether of the one class or of the other, to try and please the unwilling.

Should these objects be steadily kept in view, and we submit whether honesty does not demand that they should, we can foresee no insuperable difficulty as likely to arise. In this manner, we think, cordial reconciliation may be effected without any petty jobbing in concessions. Let us but have a bill, in substance embodying our common principle, and in form as little calculated to provoke hostility as possible; and, without any premature attempts to adopt one organisation, honest hearts will soon run together, and when opportunity invites, co-operation will not be wanting. If the conference should succeed thus far—and we believe it will—every friend of the cause will take fresh courage—every foe will be struck with dismay. Tens of thousands, who in their consciences have been convinced of the justice of it, but who have hitherto hesitated openly to avow themselves, will emerge from silence and concealment. Their simultaneous accession to our ranks will awaken more extended inquiry—inquiry will lead to conviction—conviction to co-operation—and by another general election we shall be able to meet the common enemy on the battle-field of the present parliamentary constituency.

MOVEMENT AMONGST THE AGRICULTURISTS.

It is interesting to note the signs of the times amongst the farmers. The prejudices, in which their stolid minds have so long been frozen, have already begun to thaw; the time-honoured bulwarks, on the support of which they have so long securely rested, are crumbling away—and they are silent or acquiescent. Whether the influence which has thus operated be that of intelligence, or of necessity, or of the prime minister, we will not undertake to decide; but the fact is before us, too plain to escape observation, and we must repeat that it is an interesting fact in the history of agriculture and agriculturists.

At the time of the last election, every county hustings echoed the blessings of protection to agriculture, through the means of a conservative government. In the enthusiasm of the moment, landlords became at once alliterative and profane, and “Peel and Providence” was not unfrequently the toast at county dinners. By thus working upon the ignorance of the farmers, the conservative party managed to increase their majority, and Peel was triumphantly carried into power. He had not, however, been seated in office three months, before he subjected the credulity of country gentlemen and their tenants to a severe trial. The new Corn bill and the tariff were produced to parliament and passed into law. Murmurs loud and long greeted the monstrous birth, from fairs and market places; and the lately revered name of Peel was hooted in agricultural, as his effigy was burnt in manufacturing, towns; visions of foreign corn and foreign cattle, fearfully reducing the prices of domestic produce, haunted and disturbed the agricultural mind. Small and valueless in a commercial point of view as Peel’s changes were, they were still changes which the farmer had not expected; and for a time they created a panic, and brought about a reaction of opinion against the conservative premier. The panic was, however, of short duration. Very little foreign corn came into the market, and very few foreign cattle paid a visit to our fields or shambles. The panic, therefore, subsided—the farmers began to chew the cud of reflection—and, if we may trust the reports of agricultural meetings and festivals, held within the last fortnight, their ruminations have done something to mitigate the fears which had been unduly excited.

We confess we have been startled by these reports of county meetings. At the Yeovil Agricultural society, Mr T. D. Acland, the county member, not only vindicated his support of Peel, but actually said that, “in these times, no class of the community ought to wish or expect to have such protection as was injurious to other classes, and the general interests of the country;” and he was not summarily ejected from the meeting, nor were his words drowned in the dissident clamours of his audience. On the contrary, he seems to have been listened to with complacency, if not with approval. This, no doubt, emboldened him to put forth the following outrageous language:—

“They must not rely too much upon the legislature for what they called protection against foreign competition; for the time was come when the best security for all interests was increased intelligence and perseverance, so that they might produce the best articles at the lowest rate. This might be taken to apply alike to agriculture and to manufactures; for these were not times when any class could safely rest upon their oars, but all must endeavour, if they would withstand foreign competition, to produce the best article at the lowest price. He hoped that whatever changes had taken place, or might take place—he did not know of any further changes in contemplation—they would, looking to the balance of interests, work for the good of all.”

Such a direct avowal of free-trade doctrines would well become Mr Acland, of the Anti-corn-law League; but how the member for

Dorsetshire could have uttered them, and hope henceforth to be regarded as a farmer's friend, we will leave to be settled by better casuists than ourselves. But worse remains behind. Mr Sanford, the former member for the county, outstripped his successor in daring. "Place no reliance upon protection whatever," said he, "Yes," he continued, rising in warmth and energy, "I will say again, place no dependence on any legislative protection, but trust more to yourselves; for if you trust to protection in future, you will, I firmly believe, trust to a reed that will bruise you." The poor farmers of Dorsetshire were appalled at this ominous warning into what the reporter for the *Dorset County Chronicle* delicately styles "sensation," which became "increased sensation," *pari passu*, with the increased energy of Mr Sanford. We cannot help suspecting that the sensation was rather akin to sibilation, else has conversation done its work with marvelous rapidity in the county of Dorset.

When these friendly intimations had been offered to the farmers, one equally as friendly was administered to the Yeovil glove trade, always foremost amongst the manufactures of this country which have disgraced themselves by claiming legislative protection against foreign competition. On this occasion, however, Mr Dickinson plainly told them, "With respect to gloves or other articles, you must not rely upon legislative measures for prohibiting the importation of foreign produce. The course of things at present is against protection, and in favour of free-trade, and I do not think it can be stopped"—nor do we; but why did not Mr Dickinson make this discovery before the farmers and the glove makers sent him into the house of Commons?

The day after all this treason to the "great and comprehensive system of protective and prohibitory duties under which England has arrived at her present eminence in the scale of nations" was sounded in the ears of the heavy agriculturists of Dorsetshire, as Sir James Graham would call them, the Duke of Rutland, in presiding over the annual dinner of the Leicestershire Agricultural society, thus hinted at further reductions:—

"Since they had last met certain changes had taken place relating to the laws affecting the importation of cattle and corn. He should not now express any opinion upon those alterations, as he had not formed any conclusions upon the subject. He would, however, state, that growers of corn had admitted that the duty might safely be lowered. He had several letters in his possession, written by parties fully able to judge, on the probable effects of any change in the corn laws, many of which clearly showed, that even the present modified scale might be reduced by some shillings a quarter."

Perhaps the above is the most notable sign of the times we have yet chronicled. To be assured that innovations they had never anticipated, and had always dreaded, are in reality the best thing that could happen to them, might be borne with some degree of patience by British farmers; to listen, too, to free-trade theories from the lips of those who had hitherto mouthed protection, although nauseous, was not impossible; but the unkindest cut of all is the prophesy of future progress in that very direction in which all true farmers believe we have traveled too far already. And it is a cut which must have left a deep wound in the trusting hearts of those who have heavy rents to pay, and decreasing profits out of which to pay them.

Whatever may be our opinion of the honour and consistency of noble lords and right honourable commoners—who, in order to get into the house of Commons, pandered to the ignorance and prejudices of county voters, and as soon as they got in forgot, at the bidding of their party leader, the repeated pledges they had solemnly given—we can have no objection to the farmers being taught that it is better for them to rely upon themselves than upon the legislature. This is wholesome instruction by whomsoever conveyed, apostates or converts; and it is instruction of which the agriculturists stand sadly in need. Instead of developing the resources of the soil to the utmost which, under a system of competition, they would be compelled to do, they have trusted to a high scale of duties, creating an artificial price for their produce. This trust is beginning to fail them, and it will be well if they are alive to the full exigencies of their position. Agricultural doctors are dwelling upon the importance of applying chemical agents to the cultivation of the soil: on which, we presume, all are agreed. But political doctors may here step in, and ask whether there are not other sciences, besides that of chemistry, which it would be wise in the British farmer to study, and the application of which would conduce to his prosperity—the science of politics, for example. It is not wholly improbable that the laws of primogeniture and entail—concentrating, instead of diffusing proprietorship, materially impede that independence in the cultivator of the soil, which would prove one of his most powerful stimulants in the competitive race he is assuredly destined to run. The Rutlands, the Aclands, and the Dickinsons, might object to the investigation here implied; but, for all that, we believe it would repay the inquirer. And is there not a more pressing political question, of more urgent interest to the man whose capital is embarked in the land? Is not the British farmer too much at the mercy of the landlord, to make it worth his while to expend more capital than he can avoid upon the improvement of the soil? What say the fifty-pound tenants at will, the pride of Chandos and their own disgrace? Are they satisfied? We know, of our own experience, that it would be folly for them to expend a farthing in speculative cultivation. They cannot afford to experimentalise. Let us hear Mr Adam Gordon at Yeovil, and Mr Kilby at Leicester, as to this point. The former gentleman held up Scotland as an example to England; and attributed the improved state of cultivation there to "the circumstance of there being no short leases—none of less than nineteen years;" and the latter, a practical farmer and a writer on agriculture, was more emphatic:—

"Many lectures had been read to them on this subject, 'insufficient production.' He had heard one of them at the Royal Agricultural society,

from Lord Stanley, who had referred to what was done by the farmers of Scotland—to the greater amount of labour they employed upon and of produce they derived from their farms: and that was all true enough, but he thought his lordship had forgotten one circumstance. He (Mr Kilby) had traveled in Scotland, and seen some of those farms; but he found that every one of the tenants had had a twenty-one years' lease to begin with; so that if he went on improving his land year after year, he was certain of a return for the capital he thus invested."

But Messrs Gordon and Kilby ought to know that the landlords of England will not give long leases, while it is to their political advantage to refuse them. They prefer tenancies at will, because the tenant is their creature, who must vote as they please or be ruined. So that according to the testimony, not of a mere politician, but of a practical farmer and a writer on agriculture, the political status of the farmer has some connexion even with the cultivation of the soil.

Perceiving a tendency, or the glimpses of a tendency, amongst the agriculturists as a body, to examine their relation to the other classes of the community, we think it is not altogether out of season to commend to the attention of those whom our voice can reach, topics about which county members, the usual agricultural schoolmasters, preserve an impenetrable silence. It will be something gained for the advancement of our country if the farmer can be brought to understand, that he suffers more from the anomalous and unjust institutions, by which he, in common with all other classes is surrounded, than he does even from the absence of improved drainage and quicker manures.

CONTINENTAL REPUBLICANISM.

THE insurrection at Barcelona is quelled, after less than a day's bombardment; and, despite French and Christino intrigues, Espartero's star is again in the ascendant. Although professedly a movement in favour of liberty, we confess we looked with no sympathy upon this insurrection. It was said to have originated in the arbitrary arrest of the printer and editor of an obnoxious republican journal. Be it so; we would not attempt to justify such an act on the part of the constitutional authorities. But the steps taken to set it aside, were, to our mind, far more criminal than the act itself. Spain has need of repose; she has too long been distracted by civil war—and every Spaniard, especially every liberal Spaniard, should rather suffer in his own person a thousand deaths, than be the instrument of rekindling the animosities that have not yet lost their bitterness. But the patriots of Barcelona did their utmost to excite a war of republicanism against Espartero. They would have roused the whole of Catalonia to revolt, as the Carlists have before aroused the Basque provinces, by appealing to the narrowest interests and worst passions. Happily they have failed; and in common with every real friend to humanity, we cordially rejoice in their failure; and we acknowledge also the wise lenity which Espartero has displayed.

One of the worst features of continental republicanism, is the invariable appeal which it makes to the sword, whether in the hand of a single assassin, or of an insurrectionary populace. We do not charge upon the most enlightened republicans of France, the attempts to assassinate Louis Philippe; but in almost every instance they were the avowed acts of professed republicans, who gloried in their conduct. And it is the logical consequence of seeking political changes through the agency of physical, instead of moral and intelligent means, that many will come to consider assassination quite as justifiable as open revolt. We shall not place our own example before those who are struggling for freedom in neighbouring countries—this might be deemed presumptuous, and provoke retort. But we may safely affirm that freedom won by the sword, is not half so valuable as freedom won by more peaceful means, and that the republicans of the continent must learn and practice this lesson, before the visions of freedom and happiness, in which we are persuaded the most earnest of them indulge, can be permanently and extensively realised.

THE STRIKE.

ITS HISTORY, CAUSES, AND CONSEQUENCES.

(From a Manchester Correspondent.)

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions contained in these papers.]

VI.

Recapitulation of, and Enlargement upon, some Matters previously treated of—Influences of Factory Labour—Progress of Opinion, &c.—Progress and Effect of Associations—Beneficent Societies, Trades Unions, &c., &c.

THE immediate effect of "factory labour" upon the workers, and upon the relations of employers and employed, as well as the influence of the occupation upon the habits and minds of those attending upon the machinery, has been touched upon in its proper place. It has been remarked that, while the perpetual sameness of the occupation of those working at, or rather waiting upon, the machinery—which, year by year, has been made to do more and more of the niceties and difficulties of labour, as well as of its more laborious portions—exercised a monotonous influence upon the minds of those who commenced the work at an adult age—it drew out, unnaturally and precociously, some of the lower mental faculties of those put to labour during childhood. One of the most strongly marked characteristics of the factory population, is a disposition to run perversely in any one direction towards which a combination of circumstances may direct it. Nor is this singular, admitting the correctness of the foregoing. A race, brought up from childhood under influences such as those before mentioned—having the power of fixing the attention intently upon a limited space—and wanting the capacity to take in larger elements, or to reflect very deeply, would naturally, the attention being once roused and directed, bend all its mental energies towards the object within its clear but limited vision, to the exclusion, for the time at least, of everything else. Such a race would be likely to retain incorrect notions for a long period—but, when once the delusion was dissipated, it would follow correct ones with all the pertinacity of prejudice.

Let it not be imagined that the influence of this occupation was

inevitably effective in all cases. There is no rule free from exceptions. An adult, educated and intelligent, upon entering the mill, might preserve and improve his faculties to the utmost, being armed with a due power of resistance; and many children, naturally superior, might, from an influence acting upon the mass, not only as an excitant, but as a destructive—in spite of such influence, grow up with every mental faculty in early, but full vigour. (Unfortunately, however, as no great intelligence is necessary, the common factory hands were, and still are, amongst the least intelligent of the manufacturing operatives.) But general results are spoken of, not casual exceptions.

Amongst the effects of the progress of machinery is one which must not escape notice—the division of the workmen into ranks, caused by the small amount of intelligence needed upon the one hand, and the large amount required on the other. The first division was between the machine workers, and the machine makers. Hanging upon these, and increasing with the progress of invention and improvement, were numberless others, of every shade and degree. The luxury, too, consequent upon high prosperity, introduced a large number of well-paid artisans, whose task was to supply the refined tastes in building and decorating houses, in clothing, in matters of taste and art, following in the train of commercial success. Thus the factory worker looked down upon the mere hand labourer, the mechanic upon both, and the aristocratic "artisan" upon all. This state of things was against frequent union. True, partial union very often took place. True, each "class" adhered to its own order; and its members hung together on all trying occasions, perhaps all the better for the class feeling. True, again, the progress of political opinion has affected them all, more or less. Still it required some extraordinary exciting cause to bring about a firm union, and a unanimous, or almost unanimous agreement, as to the nature and extent of the objects to be attained by it. Diversity of interests begot differences of views upon many social and political questions; and differences of condition and of "rank" had their effect in modifying or strengthening the desire for extreme political measures, and the means used in trade disputes. Men of great cleverness, too, were brought from all parts of the country by the increasing demand for skilled workmen—and these brought with them dissimilar notions, and dissimilar views of the measures most likely to benefit or injure their class.

When the causes of the "strike" come to be considered, it will form an interesting part of the inquiry, to ascertain how the intense exertions of all, and the decisions of the great majority, became suddenly directed to one common point.

The gradual approach towards a similarity of political sentiment amongst the manufacturing operatives has been followed to its actual stage. It has been seen that opinions, taking root in a sterile soil, and nurtured by the few, progressed by force of their own apparent excellence; and that the more intelligent and more moral portion of the working men, armed with correct principles, seriously checked, where they did not utterly destroy, the prejudice in favour of "auld world" notions which had showed itself in tumult, and in the grossest popular tyranny. At the point where we quit the inquiry we find democratic opinions generally pervading. We say generally, because we cannot say universally. Allowance must be made for that still-existing monument of popular folly—operative conservatism; and for the still numerous body which seems to be indifferent or ignorant upon all political questions. The former exception matters little. Whatever it might be during the reign of the whigs, and then its ranks were "fine by degrees," now it certainly is "beautifully less;" and ere long it will be forgotten. The latter class of exceptions is, no doubt, diminishing, thanks to cheap literature and abundant political discussion; yet it presents still an ample field for those who must "go out into the highways and hedges, and compel (the ignorant) to come in." However, we see so wide-spread a political fellow-feeling, that we can easily divine the reason of the colour given to every movement by the admixture of popular feelings and wishes.

The unions and disunions of the middle and working classes of the districts treated upon, have been glanced at. The last "split" has been spoken of, and the circumstances deepening the unfortunate line of demarcation existing have been mentioned. The progress of association, during the period over which our previous inquiry has extended, well deserves a few observations. It is the progress of social and political machinery. It is a progression from the rude hand-labour of ignorant physical struggle, to the refined and perfected inventions of the general combination, and harmonious action of moral effort.

It would be useless to trace back to their dubious origin combinations amongst the poorer classes. The northern countries of Europe have, from the earliest times, been known as containing powerful associations amongst various classes and sections of their respective communities. England, no doubt, inherited them from her earliest conquerors; and her "guilds," "companies," and other similar embodiments of the principle, have, no doubt, been the models of subsequent and somewhat different bandings together amongst the protection-requiring classes.

Societies of brotherhood, such as the very "Ancient Order of Free and Accepted Masons," led to more simple and less exclusive ones. The "Odd Fellows," "Foresters," "Druids," and a host of others, have gradually progressed; and that which was once confined to a few, now, in one shape or other, appears throughout every rank in society. Upon the model of "benevolent societies," very probably were founded the "trades' unions." These have existed for more than a hundred years in the northern districts; though it is not more than forty years since they began to attract much notice. They began amongst the better paid and better educated workmen, and gradually extended down to the lowest paid and most ignorant. Nowhere have they existed more generally and more efficiently. Their constitution, of necessity to the utmost degree popular, has had a mighty effect upon the growing desire for democratic institutions. They were established by the working men for the protection of the working men's interests; they were combinations of numbers, with the intent of controlling what were conceived to be the undue combinations of wealth. Every member was equal as a unionist; every man was eligible to be elected to any of the offices; the elections were frequent; the officers had periodically to account to their constituents; most of the elections were by ballot; and their "members" were generally paid. Sick and burial societies were attached to many of the unions, and a fund for

the relief of decayed members was administered by duly appointed officers amongst the more wealthy associations. These "unions," or "trades' societies," each formed a nucleus round which collected the talent and enterprise contained in every branch of industry; and, finding they could govern their own affairs by their freely-elected representatives honestly and well, as far as trade business, the relief of sick, &c., went, it is not to be wondered at, that unionists at last, should begin generally to imagine that a similar adaptation of machinery would drive out the dishonesty and one-sidedness of the class legislation under which they were continually suffering.

The progress of dissent, too, brought another powerful series of associations into existence. Here, again, was popular election in the choice of preachers, leaders, and other officers. Rank formed no element in the choice; and every good man, whether workman or master, might aspire to the office of temporary or permanent pastor.

The effect of all these associations upon the aptitude for transacting public business must have been, and continue to be, great. They instituted, also, a wide-spread moral discipline—a willingness to carry out the behests of duly-elected officials—a general readiness to act as leaders, or to submit as followers; and, as the result, whenever any object caused general interest amongst the people, men were always to be found ready to carry it out by associations—and able, from previous apprenticeship in some lodge, or club, or union, to perfect all their details, and set them actively in motion.

The manufacturing districts must, then, be regarded as containing great numbers of working men who, though perhaps ignorant on many points, are still learned in association, and better able to organise a movement than many of their superiors in fortune, station, and acquirements. It must be borne in mind, too, that the fact of large numbers of men working together at the same classes of employment, and having, therefore, most of their immediate interests in common, is very favourable to the rapid exhibition of combined movements; whenever circumstances arise powerful enough to call forth the feelings, enlist the judgment, or excite the passions of the operative classes. And also that, as sobriety is now the rule, and education much more diffused amongst all ranks than it once was, a combination once formed is adhered to more steadily and courageously than those who listen to the prejudiced tirades against the fickleness and vices of the poor might be led to expect.

On dit in quarters whose information may be relied on, that the most interesting event to her Majesty's liege subjects will take place early in March next. This will consequently make the London season short and late, as the levees and drawing-rooms at St James's palace, will not be held till after the accouchment of the Queen.—*Globe*.

A royal proclamation has been issued, stating that parliament will be further prorogued, on the 13th day of December inst., to Thursday, the second day of February next, "then to assemble and be holden for the dispatch of divers urgent and important affairs."

It appears that her Majesty's ministers are at length convinced of the necessity of adopting a fixed duty on corn, as the new sliding scale has worked so unsatisfactorily for the public interests. We are informed that the scheme under consideration, and which will probably be submitted for the approval of parliament, with certain modifications, is as follows:—In the beginning to levy one uniform rate of duty of 12s. per quarter on wheat imported from all foreign countries, not being British possessions; but afterwards to allow the executive to reduce the duty one half—to 6s. per quarter—on imports from those countries which may claim the indulgence as a compensation for concessions made to us, or for corresponding reductions in their duties levied upon British manufactures. This will give power to ministers negotiating commercial treaties with our neighbours, as they will be enabled to offer an equivalent for favours conferred on us. It will be of great service in softening the hostile tariffs of America and Prussia, together with the other States forming the German Customs union, which are manœuvring slowly and systematically to exclude our goods entirely from their markets, and which they may effectually succeed in doing at no very distant period, if we do not adopt timely measures to counteract them. We must confess that this scheme offers many advantages, and is a great improvement upon the last sliding scale.—*Globe*. (The *Standard* says, "that there is not the least foundation whatever for the *Globe's* statement.")

An opinion prevails pretty extensively among the monied interest in the city, that the approaching session of parliament will bring forth some sweeping measure for the final settlement of the currency question, and for protecting the public in banking matters.

The public will be rejoiced to find that the omission of Sir Robert Sale's name in the honorary distinctions granted to the heroes of our late achievements in India, proceeds in no degree from a desire to underrate the merits of that gallant officer. Sir Robert Sale very recently received the grand cross of the Bath for his noble defence of Jellalabad, and other eminent services on the north-west frontier of India, and it was, therefore, impossible to give him the same distinction which has been conferred on General Pollock, General Nott, and Sir William Parker; but it has been notified to the Governor-general of India, in compliance with his recommendation, that it will be proposed to parliament to grant to Sir Robert and Lady Sale, with the benefit of survivorship, an annual pension of £500, as a special public recognition of signal merit.—*Times*.

The following is the statement of the *Manchester Guardian* respecting the anticipated alteration in the sugar duties. "We have reason to believe that the leading provisions of a new commercial treaty with the Brazils have been arranged; and that there is now no serious difficulty in the way of a satisfactory arrangement of all the points in dispute. It is stated that the duty proposed to be levied on Brazilian sugar, is 30s. per cwt.; whilst that on the produce of the British plantations, and the East Indies, is to be reduced to 16s.; the present duties being, as most of our readers are no doubt aware, 63s. and 24s. We imagine that this change, if carried into effect, will prove highly satisfactory, and will very considerably reduce the price of sugar to the consumer." The *Leeds Mercury* says: "Our own information from Liverpool leads us to believe that our contemporary is about right in the rates which he mentions, though we are told that no decisive information has yet been received in this country."

PROVINCIAL.

A meeting in favour of the objects of the Anti-corn-law League was held at Leeds on Tuesday, the 6th inst., at which about 800 persons were present. Mr J. G. Marshall presided, supported by Mr Aldam, M.P., Mr Busfield, M.P., Mr Cobden, M.P., Dr Bowring, M.P., Col. Thompson, and many of the leading manufacturers of the borough. At its close the Chairman announced the amount of subscriptions at £745.

At the meeting of the council of the Manchester Anti-corn-law association, the following resolution was passed:—"That a temporary and suitable building be erected in Peter street, by the Manchester Anti-corn-law association, for the purpose of holding the great aggregate meeting of the League in January, 1843. The profits (after defraying the expenses of the building) arising from charges for admission, &c., to be given to the League fund."

At an anti-corn-law meeting at Rochdale, £1,200 was raised in aid of the League fund.

The usual weekly meeting of the Anti-corn-law League, took place at Manchester on Thursday. The Chairman gave the following sketch of the progress of the League fund. On Monday last, Mr Bright and Mr Moore attended a meeting at Darlington, where a subscription was entered into, amounting to near £100. On Tuesday a similar meeting was attended by both these gentlemen at Durham, and a similar amount of money was then raised on the spur of the moment by collection. On Tuesday morning a meeting of the merchants and manufacturers at Leeds, or a conference, as it was called, took place, which was attended by Mr Cobden; and on the evening of the same day, a large tea party assembled, which was attended by many leading and influential persons, and addressed by Mr Cobden, M.P., Dr Bowring, M.P., Mr Aldam, M.P., and by Colonel Thompson, who, he was happy to inform them, would be present at and address the present meeting. And at the termination of the proceedings of that tea party, a subscription of £800 was announced. Last night, he had the pleasure to inform them, one of the most extraordinary meetings ever yet held on this question, took place at Rochdale, at which Mr Cobden, Mr Bright, and Dr Bowring, were present; and at the close of the proceedings the important sum of £1,350 had been collected. Subscriptions continued to pour in till near twelve o'clock at night, a number of operatives attending and taking part in the proceedings, who, besides contributing their own mite, made suggestions from time to time, pointing out such and such gentlemen present as they thought likely to subscribe, but who had not subscribed. Another meeting was to be held that evening at Bradford, in support of the great League fund, at which Mr Bright and Mr Moore would be present; another meeting was being held at Holmfirth; and a third was being held at Blackburn, attended by Mr Cobden, and Mr Alderman Brooks; and at each of these meetings subscriptions would be entered into in support of the great League fund. On Friday evening, a large meeting was appointed to take place at Preston, at which a deputation of gentlemen from the council was to be present; and on Saturday evening there would be another at Bacup. Next week the great meetings of the midland counties commenced. On Monday evening there would be a tea party at Derby, and on Tuesday a demonstration of the three counties of Leicester, Derby, and Nottingham, would be held at Nottingham; and during the entire of the week meetings were appointed to be held, at which two or three members of the council were to be present and take part in the proceedings. In addition to these engagements, Mr Cobden was invited to attend a large tea party, to be held also during the week, in the Potteries; and another meeting was appointed to take place at Hebden bridge. Mr Hickens, the secretary, gave a list of a large number of places to which cards had been sent, and stated that since last week, £22 10s. had been expended in postage stamps and envelopes alone. The meeting was addressed by Henry Marsland, Esq., M.P. for Stockport, Col. Thompson, James Wilson, Esq., of London, and the Rev. F. Bishop, of Warrington.

The Bradford Anti-corn-law *soirée* yielded £425.

PROGRESS OF FREE TRADE PRINCIPLES.—We take the following from last week's *Spectator*:—"The proceedings at the agricultural meetings, which continue to be held about the country, exhibit a vigorous and rapid growth of the new spirit we have lately noted as beginning to animate the agriculturists. * * * The agricultural community are not remarkable for promptitude in change; yet there was a string of speeches at the Yeovil dinner, advocating a perfect revolution in husbandry, as a necessary consequence of the breach which has been made in the wall of protection. Resignation and even reconciliation to the measures of government, determination to prepare for competition by increased industry and skill, and exhortations to the whole body of practical farmers to bestir themselves in the same spirit, have been urged by the Duke of Rutland, at Leicester, by Mr Thomas Dyke Acland, Mr Dickinson, Mr C. A. Moody, and even by Mr Miles, the leader of the farmers' forlorn hope in the house of Commons, at the other Somersetshire meeting in Clevedon."

At the dinner of the Yeovil Agricultural society, the following sentiments were uttered. Mr Acland, the tory member for Somersetshire, in his advice to the farmers present, said—

"That they must not rely too much upon the legislature for what was called protection against foreign competition, for the time was come when the best security for all interests was in increased intelligence and perseverance, so that they might produce the best articles at the lowest rate. This might be taken to apply alike to agriculture and to manufactures, for these were not times when any class could safely rest upon their oars, but all must endeavour, if they withstood foreign competition, to produce the best articles at the lowest price."

And F. H. Dickinson, Esq., M.P., says more distinctly—

"The course of things at present is against protection, and in favour of free trade, and I do not think it can be stopped." He added, "We are a great people, and not an artificial people; and I do not think we can much longer continue artificial measures or laws for keeping up any particular interest."

Mr Sanford also gives his advice—

"I will say again, place no dependence on any legislative protection, but trust more to yourselves; for if you trust to protection for the future, you will, I am firmly persuaded, trust to a reed that will bruise you."

At the meeting of the Clevedon Agricultural society, Mr Miles, M.P., urged the farmers to exert themselves for the improvement of agriculture, as the only means of meeting the altered state of the times; for it was the character of Englishmen always to strive against difficulties, and not to give up to clamour, or what he trusted would be but a passing cloud on their prosperity. At the Leicestershire Agricultural society's dinner, the Duke of Rutland, who was chairman, in reference to the recent alterations in the corn laws and tariff, said—

"He should not now express any opinion upon those alterations, as he had not formed any conclusions upon the subject. He would, however, state, that growers of corn had admitted that the duty might safely be lowered. He had several letters in his possession, written by parties fully able to judge on the probable effects of any change in the corn laws, many of which clearly showed, that even the present modified scale might be reduced by some shillings a quarter."

On the necessity of the landlords assisting the tenantry, Mr G. Carrington, the proprietor of the best cultivated estate in Buckinghamshire, made the following judicious remarks, at the Tring Agricultural association dinner:—

"It was impossible," said Mr C., "for farmers to employ the same number of labourers in the winter as in the summer, except that labour be expended in making permanent improvements; and it could not be expected that farmers would expend their capital on the soil, unless they were protected in their occupancy of it by long leases. A farmer might have full confidence in his landlord; but life was uncertain, and the landlord's successor might be a person of very different character."

At a dinner of the Buckinghamshire Conservative association on Thursday last, at Brill, the Duke of Buckingham expressed his disapprobation of the recent measures affecting agriculture. "Whatever changes of opinion," said his grace, "might have overtaken some gentlemen on this subject, those changes of opinion had not altered his. He gave his votes, and he gave utterance to his opinions formerly as he did now, with the perfect conviction, in his own mind, that they were founded in honesty and truth; those opinions remained firm and unchanged, and he looked back with regret, and deep regret, to the passing of the new corn bill and the tariff." It must be observed, however, that the Duke of Buckingham was literally the meeting; for it was composed of his dependents and a few of the neighbouring gentry. No man of mark in the county chose to commit himself to the extreme opinions of his grace. All the county members were absent on the occasion!

SOUTHAMPTON, DEC. 12.—The West India steamer, Clyde, having been seriously damaged, was unable to take out the mails of 1st inst; and the City of Glasgow, which conveys the inter-colonial mails in the West Indies, happening to be ready for sea, left Southampton on Wednesday last with 16 passengers, to call at Falmouth for the mails for Corrunna, Madeira, and the West Indies. The first officer of the City of Glasgow, is Mr Tracy, the son of Captain Tracy, R.N., a highly respectable inhabitant of the neighbourhood of Southampton. The Solway will take out the mails of the 15th inst.; the Clyde, of the 1st; and the Avon, of the 15th of January. The Oriental steamer, which brought the Indian mail, arrived at the Motherbank on Friday last, and will be relieved from quarantine to-morrow morning. The Royal Tar arrived here yesterday morning; her dates were—Gibraltar, the 2nd; Cadiz, the 3rd; Lisbon, the 5th; Oporto, the 6th; and Vigo, the 7th. She brought 20 passengers and nine oxen. The Montrose left Southampton for the peninsula on Saturday. A dense fog, nearly the whole of last week, covered the town and Southampton water, and delayed the City of Glasgow very considerably. A public meeting has been called at the Long rooms to-morrow night, to elect a delegate to attend the Complete Suffrage convention.

STATE OF TRADE.—In the Manchester market there has been a fair demand for goods suitable to India and China, though the improvement generally has not been so great as was anticipated. Of the state of trade at Leeds the *Mercury* says, "Though we believe no letters have yet been received in Leeds from China, yet considerable purchases have been made during this week in Leeds, for the China market, in woollens." The stocks in Bradford are now getting low, and manufacturers are looking for a slight advance. Neither in Huddersfield nor Halifax has any decided improvement been manifested, though the markets have been somewhat firmer. At Blackburn and Burnley a decided improvement has taken place, at advanced prices. In the latter place, many firms who had been working short time have commenced long time.

PANIC IN THE NAIL TRADE.—The nail trade of Bromsgrove has been for some time past in a very unsettled and unsatisfactory state, and the total suspension of business, on Saturday last, by Messrs G. and T. Chidley has produced a complete panic in the town. It is conjectured that by this circumstance upwards of eight hundred individuals are thrown wholly out of employment, and deprived of the means of obtaining sustenance! The cause of this sudden suspension has not at present transpired, but it is to be feared that there is little chance of their resuming business for some time. The applications for relief at the board of guardians on Monday last were most numerous, and the prospect of a large increase in the poor rates of the parish seems, from the foregoing statement, inevitable.—*Worcester Chronicle*.

The *Leeds Mercury* announces the bankruptcy of the eminent firm of Messrs J. L. Fernandes and Sons of Wakefield, corn merchants, &c. The stoppage took place on Thursday, and it is said that the liabilities of the firm are not less than £90,000.

FATAL ACCIDENT ON THE LONDON AND BIRMINGHAM RAILWAY.—A frightful accident happened on Thursday to the Aylesbury up-train upon the London and Birmingham railroad, which was attended with very serious consequences to four persons, and will, it is feared, terminate in the death of one of them. It was proceeding down a slight inclination at twelve o'clock, near Northchurch, a village about a mile on the other side of Berkhamstead, and between the latter place and Tring, when the axletree of the engine broke, the fore wheel flew off, and the engine and tender were thrown off the line and smashed to pieces. The first carriage was hurled from the road and rolled down the embankment, and the two first-class carriages forced right athwart the rails. One of the company's overlookers, who had been in the first carriage, was in its descent thrown out of the window, and left upon the embankment. The stoker was found to have received a severe concussion of the brain; and an old man and woman were found lying, with their bodies literally doubled together, inside the ill-fated carriage. The cause of the accident was a defect in the iron of which the axle was made. A large hollow, like an air bubble, appeared to have formed from the centre nearly to the edges of the metal. The following is the official report of the surgeon who attended on behalf of the company:—"John Tomlin of Boxmoor—severe injury to the head and fracture of the ribs. Mary Bye of Aylesbury—severe injury to the head. John Pemberton, company's stoker—concussion of the brain. Matthew Lowe, overlooker, Berkhamstead—injury to back." On Friday morning Mrs Bye breathed her last. The other sufferers were doing well. The following is the verdict of the coroner's inquest:—"Accidental death, with a deodand of 5s. on the engine;" the jury

recommending to the railway company, for the future, to place an empty carriage, or luggage-van, between the engine and the passenger carriages; considering that, if that had been the case in this instance, the death of this woman would not have happened. Mr Creed said he believed that the Company had already determined upon adopting the plan suggested by the jury. Mrs Mary Bye, who lived at Aylesbury, is said to have been Lord Byron's nurse. She was sixty-eight years of age.

INCENDIARY FIRES.—The *Nottingham Review* contains an account of a diabolical attempt to burn down the property of Mr Savage, a farmer and tenant of Lord Raneliffe's, at Bunny. A large stack was fired in the centre, and was discovered by the barking of a dog. Notwithstanding the speedy arrival of the engines, from 25 to 30 quarters of wheat, and nearly the whole of the produce of five acres of oats, were consumed. A reward of 50*l.* has been offered for the discovery of this villainous midnight depredator. The same paper records another attempt to set fire to a straw stack at Whetton-in-the-Vale, which, through strenuous exertions, was subdued. —Saturday evening, about seven o'clock, a cattle-skilling belonging to Mr Chillingworth, of Queen lanes, near Highworth, was discovered to be on fire; when, shocking to relate, five very fine fat cows were burnt, having literally been roasted alive, and two others were severely injured by the flames. A large rick of hay adjoining the shed was also destroyed. There can be no doubt but that this fire was the act of some heartless miscreant. —*Wilts Independent*. —We regret to record a third act of incendiarism committed within the last few months, on the property of Mr Spooner, of Crookes. Between seven and eight on Saturday evening, a man going to watch the stacks found that one of them had just been ignited, but fortunately the fire had made so little progress that it was immediately extinguished. It is remarked that on each occasion the stacks have been fired on the Saturday evening, and about the same hour. The reward of 40*l.*, offered for the detection of the offender in the last case, is extended also to this. —*Sheffield Independent*.

MURDER NEAR CHEPSTOW.—On Saturday week an atrocious murder was committed on an unmarried female, aged 36, named Mopley, who resided with her father at a farm about two miles from Chepstow. It appears that the father left home about eleven in the morning for Chepstow market. On his return, at two o'clock, he found the lifeless body of his daughter lying in a pool of blood at the back door, and beside her a large hedge-stake, by which it was evident the unfortunate woman had been deprived of life. The drawers in the house had been broken open, and about 20*l.* in cash stolen therefrom. On Sunday the supposed murderer was captured at Tintern Abbey, about two miles from the scene of the murder. The prisoner is a man about 26 years of age, a near neighbour of the deceased, named Edward Reece. Suspicion fell upon him in consequence of his having been spending considerable sums of money on the preceding day: as he was merely a farm labourer it was at once supposed he could not by honest means have been in possession of the money. Since his apprehension a shirt and waistcoat belonging to him have been discovered in the thatch of one of the farm buildings, covered with blood. The prisoner had been married the preceding Sunday.

MURDERS AT GREAT YARMOUTH.—The town of Yarmouth has this week been thrown into much excitement in consequence of two murders having been committed last Saturday night. The particulars are (as far as we have been able to learn) as follows:—It appears that on Saturday two ferrymen, named Ward and William Mann, having to settle about some fish which they had brought to the market, and Mann not giving full satisfaction to the other, a quarrel ensued, and Ward knocked Mann down, saying, "Now I will do for you!" and gave him a kick in the abdomen: the poor fellow never spoke afterwards, and expired in about an hour. Ward was apprehended the same night, and was taken before Mr S. Palmer (the mayor) and a bench of magistrates on Monday, when, after a lengthened investigation, he was committed to Norwich castle to take his trial at the next assizes. On the same night, or early on Sunday morning, a soldier (who was on leave of absence, and who arrived in Yarmouth only on the Thursday, on a visit), on going up Charlotte street, accompanied by an old comrade, was saluted by two girls, who asked for some gin. The soldier said he would give them some if they knew where to get it, upon which they took them to the Green Man and Boot public house, in the same street, where the soldier called for some gin, which the landlord said came to 6*d.* On the soldier paying the money, he remarked that he could get as much for 2*d.*, which exasperated the landlord, who, after using some very violent epithets, flew on the soldier and endeavoured to strangle him, by pressing his knuckles in his throat. He then threw him with great violence on the stones, and the man's head came in contact with the kerb with such force as to render him insensible; from this state he never recovered, and lingered up to Thursday morning, when he expired. The deceased had just arrived in England from India, and had been in the service twenty years. Moore (the landlord) has been taken into custody, and will be examined before the mayor after the inquest.

SCOTLAND.

A POOR LAW FOR SCOTLAND.—Sir Robert Peel has signified the intention of government to frame a poor law for Scotland. In a letter to Mr Wallace, M.P., who had forwarded a memorial to government, praying for a grant to relieve the poor of Greenock, Sir Robert says:—"The state of the law in Scotland in respect to the relief of the destitute has attracted the serious attention of her Majesty's government, and measures are now in progress for instituting a full and comprehensive inquiry into that important subject, with a view to the amendment of the existing law."

FEARFUL STATE OF RENFREWSHIRE.—On Friday last, a very large meeting of the noblemen, commissioners of supply, justices of peace, and magistrates of towns in the county of Renfrew, was held in the County hall, Paisley, to take into consideration the state of the poor and other matters therewith connected; P. M. Stewart, Esq., vice-lieutenant of the county, in the chair. The Chairman stated, instead of realising the sum of £1,800 by the voluntary assessment, agreed to at their last meeting, but £400 had been raised. The Provost of Greenock detailed the condition of that town. The whole number of unemployed in that town amounted to 1,482 men, making, with dependents, a total of 5,639 persons; and out of that number,

between 500 and 600 had not applied for relief. Here a voluntary assessment had been agreed to, and about £3,000 raised; but how they were to get over the winter without aid from other than their own resources, he was at a loss to know. Memorials were read to the meeting from the unemployed and the joint committees of the presbytery and relief committees of Paisley. They contained most alarming statements of the present condition of the unemployed of Paisley. The minute of the relief committee stated most pointedly, that if not furnished immediately with the means of further relief, 700 persons in the town of Paisley alone would be left either to starve peacefully, or to take food where they could get it; and that unless this request was complied with, it would be impossible to answer for the peace and good order of the community for twenty-four hours longer. Resolutions were proposed by Colonel Muir, urging upon government the absolute necessity of doing something on behalf of the distressed population, followed by the annexed ominous sentiment, adopted as it was by noblemen, gentry, and men of all shades of politics—"That while, lastly, in the event of this application being made in vain, we are willing to make every possible effort, and every reasonable sacrifice, to mitigate the effect of the common evil in those quarters on which it presses most severely; we consider it a duty to ourselves, should these resources fail, to disclaim all legal responsibility for the consequences, either to the distressed population, or the community at large." To these resolutions, was appended another, at the suggestion of Provost Henderson, that instant steps be taken for raising in the county £1,200, for supply of the immediate wants of the distressed working population.

THE UNEMPLOYED IN PAISLEY.—The number of the unemployed is now upwards of 10,000, and is still on the increase. The scanty pitance allowed them is this week reduced one-half, owing to the weekly remittances from London having become less, and the committee (now, it is said, clear of debt) are unwilling to guarantee a further allowance. Paisley, Greenock, Kilbarchan, Johnstone—all are suffering. Even in the Mearns, according to the statement made by the minister in the presbytery, the distress is very great, 500 additional having lately been thrown upon him and a few others for support. Renfrew and Lochwinnoch, as well as Barrhead, according to their respective ministers' statements, are likewise suffering severely. —*Glasgow Citizen*.

MONUMENT TO THE MARTYRS OF 1793.—A long discussion took place in the town council, Edinburgh, on Tuesday last, as to whether that body should cede a site on the Calton Hill for a monument to Muir, Gerald, Margarot, and others. In the end, nineteen voted to the effect that the site should be granted, provided the council had the power to appropriate the ground, while Sir William Drysdale and two other members voted against the proposition *in toto*, as conceiving these unfortunate men quite unworthy of such a commemoration. Sir W. Drysdale made a very violent speech in opposition to the motion.

BREAKING UP OF THE DROUGHT IN SCOTLAND.—The first really copious rains which have fallen since the beginning of summer, took place on Monday last. The previous day was very misty, which, in the last quarter of the moon, indicates wet, and which was realised in abundance from an early hour next morning, when rain set in with a strong east wind, and continued without intermission for nearly fourteen hours. All the rivers were next day flooded to a great degree. The Tay and Earn overflowed all their banks, but fortunately at this season little field damage can be done. The country mills will now be abundantly supplied, which for several months had only had one or two hours working in the twenty-four. —*Perth Courier*.

DEATH OF LORD HILL.—This melancholy event, which has been anticipated some time, took place on Saturday morning. His lordship expired at 20 minutes before 9 o'clock, at his seat, Hardwicke grange, near Shrewsbury. For some weeks past, his lordship had been confined to his room, and his health had been gradually declining. His relatives and friends have been unremitting in their attendance upon him, and his last moments were cheered by the presence of those who were nearest and dearest to him. His lordship was born August 11th, 1772, and was second son of the late Sir John Hill, Bart., of Hawkstone. Lord Hill entered the army in the sixteen year of his age. His lordship was in his 71st year, and is succeeded in his title by his nephew and heir, Sir Rowland Hill, of Hawkstone, which will consequently cause a vacancy in the representation of the northern division of the county. Viscount Clive will be the new member.

Quarterly average of the weekly liabilities and assets of the Bank of England, from the 10th September, 1842, to the 3d December, 1842:—

LIABILITIES.		ASSETS.	
Circulation . . .	£19,562,000	Securities . . .	£21,210,000
Deposits	8,957,000	Bullion	9,984,000
	£28,519,000		£31,194,000

A correspondent of the *Times* asserts that light sovereigns have been re-issued by the Bank of England. Upon paying into the savings' bank of St Clement's, last week, 20 sovereigns, which had been received from the former bank, a deduction of 2*s.* 8*d.* was made for deficiency of weight, being a loss of more than 1*d.* upon every coin.

It has been computed that upwards of 1,000 children are annually burned to death by accident in England.

The splendid display of shooting stars which has annually happened for some years past upon the 12th of November, has not appeared this year.—The new comet in Draco will be at its nearest point to the earth on the 15th of December. Its distance, however, even at that period, will be seven millions of leagues.

The Post Office treaty between the Austrian government and that of Baden has just been ratified on both sides.

We learn from private letters, that it was the intention of Lord Ellenborough, in the course of the present month, to review the whole of the troops, who will by that time have returned from Afghanistan—35,000 in number.—*Post*.

It is stated in a letter, by a Frankfort journal, from Sweden, that all the brandy distilleries in that country have been abolished, and that a law has been passed, ordering that the names of all persons who got intoxicated shall be posted on the doors of the parish church, and that the clergymen shall put up prayers for their reformation.

LITERATURE.

The Anglo-Prussian Bishopric of St James, in Jerusalem. To which are appended, Remarks on Dr McCaul's Sermon at the consecration of Bishop Alexander. By the Rev. W. HOFFMAN, Inspector of the Missionary Seminary at Basle. Translated from the German. London: Ward.

OUR readers need not to be told that a convention was entered into last year between England and Prussia, to establish a bishopric at Jerusalem, the endowment of which is to be furnished by the two powers, in equal shares, and which is to receive under its protection and guidance, German as well as English ministers. The ostensible object of this conventional episcopate in Palestine, is to give protection and assistance to all such Christians as may settle in the Holy Land with missionary views. The real design appears to be to extend to continental protestantism the unspeakable blessing of Anglican episcopacy, with all its cognate absurdities—apostolical succession, exclusive validity of ordination, &c. The accomplishment of an object like this needed the utmost caution. The minds of Lutheran protestants required to be rendered familiar with the novel idea, ere yet they felt its substantial weight. The Germans have no great love for episcopacy; and to reconcile them to its adoption, by letting them see it just at that point of distance which renders it romantic, and feel its influence just in that unsoliciting, but at the same time unassuming, shape which will render it a needful element of German ecclesiasticism, before Lutheran divines have had time to turn them about, was, apparently, the main object aimed at in the convention to which we have adverted, and of the establishment of a bishopric at Jerusalem. Bishop Alexander is the call-bird who is sent to Palestine to lure German divines into Anglican episcopacy. To those who have watched all the facts of the case, this assumption will not be deemed an uncharitable one. The negotiation with our church dignitaries was carried on, on the part of Prussia, not by ecclesiastics, but by a diplomatist, Chevalier Bunsen. On the part of the English church, not a particle of exclusiveness is sacrificed. The Bishop of Jerusalem is supported by endowments provided in equal shares by both parties. But then, when nominated by the Crown of England, it is to be *without* German concurrence; when by the Crown of Prussia, *with* the veto of the Archbishop of Canterbury. In the projected college for converted Jews, Greeks, Druses, and others, the teaching and management are to be strictly in accordance with the rules of the English church. German congregations, who place themselves under the Bishop of St James, will be allowed, indeed, German ministers, but still only such as have been ordained by the bishop (after signing the thirty-nine articles)—they are to use their own liturgy, but only in the German language, never in the language of the people whom they go out to instruct—and, lastly, the Anglican bishop is to *confirm* the young members of German congregations. These understandings having been entered into between the two contracting parties, there can be but little room left for doubting as to the real design entertained. But if any scepticism on this head remained, it will be rendered next to impossible by the manifesto of the Archbishop of Canterbury. He avows, with a singularly naïve simplicity, that these measures are taken "with the hope that they may lead the way to an essential unity of discipline, as well as doctrine, between our own church and the *less perfectly constituted* of the protestant churches of Europe."

This design of Anglican episcopacy having been detected, or rather, having been avowed, the clergy of the German protestant churches have been thrown, as might have been anticipated, into a violent fermentation. Not a single divine has raised his voice in favour of this precious scheme, and the defence of it has been left in the hands of semi-official newspapers. Several attacks, however, have been been made upon it—none more able, none which has awakened so profound a sensation, as that now under review. It was originally published at Freiburg, in Switzerland. Seen through the veil of an imperfect translation, it displays no common power, and is calculated to excite no common interest. The writer draws the portrait of the Anglican church with a masterly and unerring hand. The following passage will atone by its vigour for its length. After acknowledging with becoming candour the existence, within the pale of our establishment, of an evangelical section, to the spiritual views and objects of which he does homage, he thus addresses the dignitaries who, through the medium of the Archbishop of Canterbury, have manifested their concern on behalf of "the less perfectly constituted of the protestant churches of Europe."

"But to you, anointed lords and consecrated gentlemen of the high church, who boast of a character *indelible*, who cherish the apostolical succession—to you, who by the mouth of William Howley and Charles James Blomfield, have dared to address us in language so impertinent—to you, we would fain direct the earnest question: Have you ever been the men to contend with the sword of the word of God and the shield of faith? To put on the armour of Christ, and come boldly forward against the hydra of infidelity and immorality? No! You were, forsooth, consecrated, and you consecrated all those who received from your hand the ruddle mark; but have you preached the gospel to the poor in the streets and ships, in the markets and in the dens of sorrow? No! The man in beggar's garb sought a place in your churches, and lo! there was no place for him there! Have you, in the Lord's name, fed the hungry, given drink to the thirsty, clothed the naked, comforted the wretched? Have you prayed and wept with them? No! You are chaplains only at the sumptuous tables of the great; you have disdained all intercourse with unsightly wretchedness, except to tythe its potatoes! Have you sought that which was lost, raised up the broken reed, and brought back the wanderer to repentance? No! You have exacted your tithes to the very anise and cummin of the poor; and, Jehu like, have brandished your bloody scourge over the famished bodies of the Irish people. Have you kindled a light in schools and colleges for the people? No! You have allowed the colleges to decline, and have grudged even the most limited instruction to the child of the artisan. Have you emancipated the swarthy slaves, the sons of Ham? No! Your apos-

tolical successors—behold! they rise up in resistance to the measure as one man! Nor could you forget the sentence, 'Cursed be Canaan, and let him be a servant of servants among his brethren.' Have you gone out to preach the gospel to every creature, and to carry the glad tidings to the heathen? The great instruments in the Lord's hand, Elliot, Brainerd, Schwartz, Marsham, Carey, Vanderkemp, Rhenius, Gutzlaff, Gobat—did they belong to you? No! The men who were enabled in the strength of the Lord to do such things, were presbyterians and baptists, were the sons of Penn and Wesley, whom your pride and worldly-mindedness drove from the midst of you—they were the sons of Germany and Switzerland, whose pious zeal you assisted with your mammon only, in order to encroach, with rude and clumsy hand, upon the fruits of their toil when the opportunity arrived. But say! where shall we find the fruit of your labours—the flock which your care has gathered? Its voice is heard in that cry of neglected wretchedness with which Europe resounds—more bread and fewer bishops, more pigs and fewer parsons! And are you for setting up to be our masters, and are we to obtain from you the rules for our 'less regulated churches?' Are you to be the pattern and the type for us? You, I ask? what you? Oh, I entreat you, let that confused vision of your infatuated pride vanish—go and repent of your sins, and the sins of your forefathers; turn your thoughts within, and learn humility! Yes, to be humble, and learn by experience, is what alone becomes you—this is the inexorable sentence of history. It shows us a church which, for the space of 300 years, has been dead to Christ, and living only for the service of the world, for pomp and show, for honour and power, for gold and possession."

1. *The History of Nelly Vanner*, who died April 26, 1839, aged ten years. Written for children of the same age. Seventh thousand. By JOHN CURWEN. Ward and Co.
2. *Hymns and Chaunts for Sunday Schools*, edited by JOHN CURWEN. Twenty-fourth thousand. London: Ward and Co.
3. *The Tune Book to the "Hymns and Chaunts, &c."* London: Ward and Co.
4. *Sketches from the Bible for Children*. By Mrs HOOKER. Edited by JOHN CURWEN.

MR CURWEN possesses, in an eminent degree, the knowledge of that secret—so invaluable and so rarely discovered—the way to a child's heart. We wonder not that his little unpretending books have, in so short a time, run through so many editions. "The History of Nelly Vanner" is a beautiful narrative, told with charming simplicity, and breathes throughout that tender affection for children which never failed, wherever displayed, to awaken youthful interest. A child has an intuitive perception, which detects fondness for the young almost at a glance. And as he can read it in the countenance, so he can recognise and appreciate it in books. The witchery of love seizes hold of his yet unseared heart; and with a trustful spirit he yields himself up to the instruction and impression sought to be imparted. We recommend these modest publications to every mother and every Sunday school teacher, as a most appropriate gift to the little ones entrusted to their care. They are designed for children, and they are peculiarly fitted to answer that design.

Steill's Pictorial Spelling Book; or, a Series of easy and progressive Lessons, on Facts and Objects. London: B. STEILL. 1842.

A VERY excellent little assistant to the teachers of youth—novel in its arrangement, rational in its plan, and executed with care and ability. The best proof we can give of our opinion of its merits, is its adoption "at home." We speak from experience when we cordially recommend its use to those who are anxious to make reading both easy and pleasant.

Povr

LIST OF PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

1. *Discourse on the Death of Dr Channing*. By the Rev. G. ARMSTRONG.
2. *The Intercommunity of Churches*. By the Rev. R. W. HAMILTON.
3. *Luther on Ordination*.
4. *Sermons*. By the late Rev. E. TEMPLE. With Memoir.
5. *Congregational Calendar and Family Almanac*. 1843.
6. *Congregational Magazine and Supplement*.
7. *North of England Magazine*.
8. *The Family Choir*. Part II.
9. *History of Nelly Vanner*.
10. *Sketches from the Bible*. By Mrs HOOKER.
11. *Hymns and Chaunts for Sunday Schools*.
12. *The Tune Book to the above*.
13. *Letter to Feargus O'Connor, Esq.* By SAMUEL WELLWOOD.
14. *The Eastern and Western States of America*. By J. S. BUCKINGHAM, Esq. In 3 vols. Fisher, Son, and Co.
15. *Two Sermons*, preached before the Baptist Missionary Society.
16. *Puseyism*, in a Course of Lectures. By the Rev. J. BURNET.
17. *A Lecture*, delivered before the Baptist Missionary Society. By Dr PYE SMITH.
18. *Madame D'Arblay*. Vol. V.
19. *Three Prize Essays on Agriculture*.
20. *A Day's Excursion and Discussion*. Dedicated to the Reformers of Fife, and Members of Complete Suffrage Unions.

RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE.

GOSPORT.—On Thursday, Oct. 27th., the Rev. John Daniel Morell, M.A., was ordained to the pastoral office over the church assembling at the Old Independent meeting house, Gosport. The Rev. G. Silly commenced with reading the scriptures and prayer. The Rev. J. Burnet of Camberwell delivered the introductory discourse, from 1 Cor. x. 15. The Rev. Mr Cousens of Portsea proposed the questions; which were duly answered by James Hoskins, Esq., in the name of the church, and by Mr Morell. The Rev. Mr Giles of Newport, in the Isle of Wight, offered up the ordination prayer. The Rev. Dr Pye Smith (one of Mr Morell's tutors) delivered the charge. The Rev. Mr Mudie of Portsmouth concluded with prayer. In the evening, the Rev. Mr Morris (baptist) commenced by reading and prayer. The Rev. T. Adkins of Southampton preached to the people, from 1 Thess. v. 12, 13. The Rev. Mr Currelly (Wesleyan) concluded with prayer. The Rev. Messrs Parry, Stephens, Ford, Howell, and other ministers, took part in the service. Thirty ministers and other friends assembled in the interval between the services; when the Rev. Mark Wilks of Paris addressed them at length upon the present very important circumstances of the evangelical cause in France.

LINDFIELD, SUSSEX.—Mr J. C. Judson, of Hackney college, has accepted a unanimous invitation from the independent church and congregation at this place, late under the pastoral care of the Rev. John Chater.

WYMOUTH.—The Rev. J. C. Butterworth, M.A., late of Bristol college, and of the university of Edinburgh, has accepted a unanimous

invitation from the baptist church at Weymouth, and entered on his pastoral duties on Sunday last.

JAMAICA.—On the 11th of October, the Rev. P. H. Cornford, late of Rio Bueno, was publicly recognised as pastor of the church at Montego bay, in the place of the Rev. T. Burchell, whose onerous duties and precarious health have rendered it necessary he should resign the charge. The Revs J. Hutchins, W. Dendy, T. Burchell, J. May, W. Knibb, and J. E. Henderson, were engaged in the service.

BAPTIST JUBILEE IN JAMAICA.—The *Baptist Herald*, October 12th says:—"We have this week to record one of the most delightful seasons of joy it has ever been our happiness to witness—the jubilee of the Baptist Missionary society, held at Kettering, Jamaica. The vast numbers who attended appear universally to have participated in the pleasures of the day, and we have good reasons to believe that lasting impressions of good will be the result. When the living mass rose to hymn the praises of the Eternal, the scene was overpowering. The booth (which contained 30,000 superficial feet, being 200 feet long and 150 broad) was literally crammed, and had in it nearly 9,000 persons. 1,600 children passed through one of the avenues, singing sweetly, and were at the same time addressed in another part of the village; and a congregation of full 2,000 were assembled to hear the truths of the gospel in another, so that (excluding the many who were yet in the village of Duncans) there were 13,000 listening to the deeply interesting details of the mission. Three happy days were spent, and we defy any country on earth to produce a peasantry more neatly attired, more consistent in their general behaviour, or more healthy in their appearance, than the assembled multitude of Baptists at the jubilee of their mission.

BIRTH.

Dec. 10th, at Orsett House, Orsett, Essex, Mrs G. MACHONACHIE, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

Dec. 6, at Brunswick chapel, Bristol, by the Rev. T. Haynes, the Rev. H. QUICK, of Beaumont square, Stepney, to ANN, second daughter of J. W. TURPIN, Esq., of the city of Bristol.

Nov. 26, at the baptist chapel, Archdeacon lane, Leicester, the Rev. R. STANION, baptist minister, of Melbourne, to Miss REBECCA NOON, of Leicester.

Dec. 6, at the independent chapel, Smethwick, the Rev. D. A. OWEN, to Miss SOPHIA JEFFERIES, only daughter of Mr C. L. Jeffries, of Smethwick.

DEATHS.

Dec. 8, at Cottenham, Cambridgeshire, in the 89th year of her age, Mrs SARAH PAMPLIN, widow of the late Mr Pamplin, farrier. The deceased was for many years a member of the first baptist church in that place, under the pastoral care of Mr John Meakin; and was considered the oldest female inhabitant in the village. Her end was peace.

Dec. 10, at his seat, near Shrewsbury, Lieutenant-general Lord HILL, late Commander-in-chief, in his 71st year.

Dec. 10, at Cobham, Surrey, Lady MOLESWORTH, widow of the late Sir Wm Molesworth, Bart, of Pencarrow, Cornwall, in her 82nd year.

Dec. 12, at Cheshunt, MARY ANNE, the wife of the Rev. Dr HARRIS, President of Cheshunt college, a few hours after giving birth to a daughter, who survives.

TRADE AND COMMERCE.

LONDON GAZETTE.

Friday, Dec. 9.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.

THOMAS, STEPHEN, late of York, victualer, but now of Lahcelot cottage, Heworth, Yorkshire.

BANKRUPTS.

BRAMMONT, JOSHUA, Gainsborough, victualer, Dec. 19, Jan. 9: solicitor, Mr Plas-kett, Gainsborough.

BELL, WILLIAM, Bridlington, merchant, Dec. 23, Jan. 17: solicitors, Messrs Towse, 24, Lawrence Pountney lane, London; Mr Mather, Newcastle-upon-Tyne; and Mr Wetwan, Bridlington.

BLATCHFORD, PETER, Plymouth, miller, Dec. 20, Jan. 19: solicitors, Mr Harris, Lincoln's inn, London; Mr Stogdon, Exeter; and Mr Kelly, Plymouth.

BURBLEM, JOHN, now or late of King's Lynn, stationer, Dec. 19, Jan. 13: solicitor, Mr Bankart, 34, Clement's lane, Lombard street, London.

DAVIES, JOHN, and EDWARDS, HENRY, Westminster road, Surrey, linen drapers, Dec. 22, Jan. 25: solicitor, Mr Ashurst, 137, Cheapside, London.

HARTLEY, THOMAS, Liverpool, hatter, Dec. 19, Jan. 10: solicitor, Mr Grocott, Liverpool.

JANION, ROBERT CHESHIRE, Liverpool, merchant, Dec. 16, Jan. 11: solicitor, Mr Johnson, St. Helens.

OAKLEY, EDMUND, and WISE, JOHN, Poole, corn dealers, Dec. 21, Jan. 13: solicitors, Mr Bishop, 20, Southampton buildings, Chancery lane, London, and Mr Moore, Wimborne, Dorsetshire.

POWELL, EDMUND PETER, Southampton, tailor, Dec. 16, Jan. 20: solicitors, Mr Walker, Southampton street, Bloomsbury, London, and Messrs Deacon and Long, Southampton.

URRY, RICHARD BABY, East Retford, coach maker, Dec. 19, Jan. 9: solicitor, Mr Vollans, East Retford.

WADE, ISRAEL, Manchester, grocer, Dec. 15, Jan. 16: solicitor, Mr Dearden, Manchester.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

KILGOUR, ALEXANDER JAMES, Dundee, china dealer, Dec. 17, Jan. 4.

LAUDER, ROBERT, Jedburgh, brewer, Dec. 15, Jan. 5.

MACFARLANE, GEORGE, and MOFFAT, JAMES, Glasgow and Campsie, merchants, Dec. 15, Jan. 5.

SCOTT, JAMES, Lesmahagow, grocer, Dec. 14, Jan. 4.

TOD, MATTHEW, late of Gladsmuir, and of Prestonpans, cattle dealer, Dec. 14, Jan. 4.

WILSON, JAMES HOOD, Dundee, fletcher, Dec. 15, Jan. 10.

Tuesday, November 12.

The following buildings are certified as places duly registered for solemnising marriages, pursuant to the act of 6 and 7 Wm IV., cap. 85:—

Mulberry gardens chapel, Pell street, St George in the East. John Stone, superintendent, registrar.

St Margaret's chapel, Norwich. Francis John Blake, superintendent registrar.

Baptist chapel, Banbury, Oxfordshire. G. Moore, superintendent registrar.

BANKRUPTS.

BREWER, WILLIAM HENRY, Ramsgate, Kent, bookseller, Dec. 22, Jan. 20: solicitors, Mr E. S. Bigg, Southampton buildings, Holborn; and Mr Wightwick, Ramsgate.

BROOK, JOHN TOWRY, 35, Bucklersbury, City, wholesale hardwareman, Dec. 21, Jan. 17: solicitor, Mr T. Lewis, 25, Clement's lane, City.

CASTLES, THOMAS, Newbury, Berkshire, horse dealer, Dec. 20, Feb. 1: solicitors, Messrs Abbott and Arney, New inn, Strand.

COTTON, GEORGE, and OSBURN, WILLIAM, Leeds, wine and spirit merchants, Dec. 24, Jan. 13: solicitors, Mr Charles Wilson, 6, Southampton street, Bloomsbury, London, and Messrs Payne and Co., Leeds.

CRESTIN, JAMES CLARKE, 31, Eastcheap, London, shipping agent, Dec. 21, Jan. 17: solicitors, Messrs Nicholson and Parker, Throgmorton street.

LINES, SAMUEL BINDLEY, Oldbury, Shropshire, grocer, Dec. 21, Jan. 7: solicitor, Mr Rawlins, Birmingham.

MUMFORD, JAMES CLEMENTS, 13, Jubilee place, Mile end road, grocer, Dec. 19, Jan. 24: solicitors, Messrs Armstrong and Jones, 14, South square, Gray's inn.

OLIVER, WALTER, Maidstone, Kent, upholsterer, Dec. 17, Jan. 17: solicitors, Messrs Palmer, France, and Palmer, 24, Bedford row, London, and Mr King, Maidstone, Kent.

PYE, WILLIAM, Eagle saw mills, Old Brompton, Middlesex, and Barnes, Surrey, builder, Dec. 29, Jan. 23: solicitors, Messrs Richardson, Smith, and Jones, 28, Golden square.

ROGERS, HENRY, Thetford, Suffolk, money scrivener, Dec. 22, Jan. 24: solicitors, Messrs White and Borrett, 33, Lincoln's inn fields, London, and Mr Edward Frestone, Norwich.

VINCENT, JOHN, Redditch, Worcestershire, pawnbroker, Dec. 22, Jan. 19: solicitor, Mr Edward Browning, Tardebigg.

WATSON, THOMAS, Great Driffield, Yorkshire, tailor, Dec. 23, Jan. 17: solicitors, Messrs Jennings and Conyer, Great Driffield.

WILEMAN, THOMAS, Earl Shilton, Leicestershire, hostler, Dec. 22, Jan. 16: solicitors, Messrs F. and H. Palmer, Mitre court chambers, Temple, Mr William Cowdell Hinckley, Leicestershire, and Mr John Smith, Birmingham.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATION.

RENTOL, ROBERT, Newport in Fife, potatoe merchant, Dec. 22, Jan. 12.

BRITISH FUNDS.

The funds continue steady, but business is more limited than during last week. Money remains plentiful and at easy rates of interest. In the discount houses the demand for it is good, yet the rates are not high.

	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.
3 per cent. Consols	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ditto for opening	93½	94	94	94	94½	94½
3 per cents. Reduced	94½	94½	94½	94½	94½	94½
3½ per cents. Reduced	101	100½	101	101	101	101
New 3½ per cent.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Long Annuities	12½	12½	12½	12½	12½	12½
Bank Stock	172½	172½	172½	173	172½	172½
India Stock	—	—	—	—	—	—
Exchequer Bills	48 pm	52 pm	53 pm	53 pm	52 pm	52 pm
India Bonds, 3 per cent.	41 pm	42 pm	—	43 pm	—	—

MARKETS.

GRAIN, MARK LANE, Dec. 12.

There was a very moderate show of wheat, but the condition of the samples being even worse than last week, former prices could not be obtained. The finer kinds were taken at about 1s. per quarter below last Monday's rates, but before the stands could be cleared of the ordinary parcels, a greater abatement had to be submitted to.

Barley was in good supply, and fully 1s. per quarter cheaper.

Oats, beans, and peas, moved off slowly at about previous rates.

	s.	d.		s.	d.		s.	d.
Wheat, Red New 44 to 50	48	53	Malt, Ordinary 42 to 52	54	58	Beans, Pigeon .. 30 to 33	30	33
Fine	45	50	Fale	54	58	Harrow	29	33
White	45	50	Peas, Hog	28	31	Oats, Feed	17	20
Fine	50	55	Maple	30	33	Fine	—	22
Rye	32	34	Boilers	32	35	Poland	21	24
Barley	32	36	Beans, Ticks	27	29	Potato	21	24
Malt	28	31						

WEEKLY AVERAGE FOR DEC. 9.

	48s.	6d.		48s.	1d.		48s.	0d.
Wheat	27	9	Barley	28	1	Wheat	20s.	0d.
Barley	17	9	Oats	17	10	Barley	9	0
Oats	28	1	Rye	30	11	Oats	8	0
Rye	30	11	Beans	31	7	Rye	10	6
Beans	33	5	Peas	33	9	Beans	10	6
Peas	33	5				Peas	9	6

SEEDS.

A few parcels of English clover-seed have been exhibited, of fine quality, but no price has yet been fixed. In canary-seed purchases might easily have been made at Monday's rates. In other seeds there was scarcely anything passing.

PROVISIONS, LONDON, Dec. 12.

There is nothing new to notice of the butter market. The demand for Irish has been limited, and the prices nominally as last quoted; foreign in quantity and price scarcely varied. Bacon has been in quiet demand, with little or no change in its value on board or landed. Bala and tierce middles dull, and late prices not well supported. Lard in demand at 54s. to 58s. Hams at 58s. to 70s. per cwt.

HOPS, BOROUGH, Dec. 12.

An unexpected brisk demand has taken place for this year's growth; one firm sold no less than 2000 bags in one day. There is also a fair average business doing in pockets at the following rates—East Kent, 90s. to 120s.; Mid. Kent, 84s. to 120s.; Weald of Kent, 72s. to 82s.; Sussex, 70s. to 78s.; Farnham, 112s. to 130s. per cwt.

BUTCHER'S MEAT, SMITHFIELD, Monday, Dec. 12.

This being the great Christmas market, the attendance of butchers was far more numerous than usual. Compared with last year, the supplies were larger; and the quality of cattle generally was quite equal to 1841. At the commencement of the market, the buyers purchased slowly; but as the day advanced, the biddings became more spirited, and an advance in beef of from 2d. to 3d. per 8lbs., was established; and a good clearance effected. In sheep a total clearance was more readily effected than could have been expected. The supply of calves was on an increased scale, but otherwise with pigs. No fresh stock from abroad was on sale.

Price per stone of 8lbs. (sinking the offal).

Beef	3s. 2d. to 4s. 8d.	Veal	3s. 8d. to 4s. 4d.
Mutton	3 4 .. 4 6	Pork	3 10 .. 4 8
HEAD OF CATTLE AT SMITHFIELD.			
Beasts	722	Sheep	183
Friday	4,541	Calves	345
Monday	4,541	Pigs	408

NEWGATE and LEADENHALL MARKETS, Monday, Dec. 12.

	Per 8lbs. by the carcase.		Per 8lbs. by the carcase.
Inferior Beef	2s. 8d. to 3s. 10d.	Inferior Mutton	2s. 10d. to 3s. 2d.
Middling ditto	2 10 .. 3 0	Middling ditto	3 4 .. 3 6
Prime large ditto	3 2 .. 3 4	Prime ditto	3 8 .. 3 10
Prime small ditto	3 6 .. 3 8	Veal	3 6 .. 4 4
Large Pork	3 6 .. 4 0	Small Pork	4 2 .. 4 6

POTATOES, BOROUGH, Monday, Dec. 12.

The supply during the past week is as follows, viz.—from Yorkshire, 650 tons, Scotland, 315, Devons, 630, Kent and Essex, 80, Guernsey, 110, Wisbeach, 120.—total, 1645. York reds

50s. to 60s. Kent, Essex, and Suffolk whites 40s. to 45s. Scotch ditto

45 .. 50 Jersey and Guernsey ditto .. 35 .. 45

Devons

— .. 50 Wisbech

35 .. 45

WOOL, Dec. 12.

Sales of Wool during the present week have been moderately extensive, and prices of both combing and clothing wools may be said to be upon the rise.

Down ewes and wethers 0s. 10d. to 0s. 10½d. Half-bred hogs

1s. 0d. to 1s. 0½d. Down tegs

0 11 .. 1 0 Flannel wool

0 8½ .. 1 0 Blanket wool

0 10 .. 0 11

HAY, SMITHFIELD, Dec. 10.—At per load of 36 trusses.

Coarse Meadow Hay	60s. to 70s.	New Clover Hay	80s. to 110s.
New ditto	—	Old ditto	—
Useful old ditto	80 .. 84	Oat Straw	35 .. 38
Fine Upland and Rye Grass	85 .. 90	Wheat Straw	35 .. 40

COAL EXCHANGE, Dec. 12.

Stewart's, 21s.; Braddy's Hetton's, 21s. 3d.; Lambton's, 21s.; Hetton's, 21s. Number of ships arrived, 260.

GROCERIES, TUESDAY, Dec. 13.

TEA.—The deliveries of tea last week were 446,493lbs. The market is dull, as further supplies are arriving; and since the public sales prices have declined 1d. to 1½d. per lb. for black, while green sorts are also lower.

COFFEE.—Good ordinary Ceylon only realised 61s. to 62s.; fine ordinary, 62s. The foreign sorts are not lower in price, but sales of consequence have been made.

Good ordinary St Domingo are quoted 31s. 6d. to 32s. 6d.

SUGAR.—The market was very flat; 100 hds Barbadoes were sold by public sale at rather lower rates; good to fine yellow fetched 65s. to 69s., and some low yellow only realised 60s. The refined market is decidedly lower. Good standard lumps are offered at 73s. 6d. per cwt, whilst brown grocery are selling at 72s. to 73s. 6d. 2350 bags Manilla were sold at 18s. to 19s. for good brown sorts. In foreign sugars there was not much doing, and prices nominally the same.

TALLOW.—There is but little doing, and no alteration in prices: 40s. to 40s. 3d. best Petersburg Y. C. on the spot.

WANTED, by a YOUNG MAN, aged 22, a Situation as Clerk, either in Town or Country. He has been seven years employed in a highly respectable Firm in London, and was Cashier and Ledger Keeper during the last three years. He can obtain the highest testimonials as to ability and integrity from his employers. Security, if required. Apply to Mr Thos PAGE, 4, Basinghall street, London.

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